

# THE CRITIC:

## Weekly Journal of Literature, Art, Science, and the Drama.

VOL. XVIII.—No. 454.

MARCH 19, 1859.

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New-cross, Kent, S.E., March 1, 1859.

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Hon. Mrs. Handcock, Lady Colbroke,  
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The Duke of Marlborough, Mrs. Archibald Tait,  
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**EDITORIAL PUPIL.**—A Professional Man, the Editor of a Daily Newspaper, has a VACANCY for a PUPIL, whose instruction in general knowledge and all the duties connected with "the Press" would be undertaken. References given and required.  
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THE late THOMAS STOTHARD, R.A.

At a Meeting of the Stothard Memorial Committee, held on the 17th ult., it was unanimously resolved that SUBSCRIPTIONS should be solicited for the purpose of erecting in the National Gallery, or some other public institution, a STATUE or BUST of the late THOMAS STOTHARD, R.A. The following gentlemen have expressed their desire to aid the cause: President, the Right Hon. Lord Montagle, the Right Hon. Lord John Manners, the Right Hon. Sir Stuart Wortley, M.P.; Lord Overstone, Sir C. L. Petrie, R.A.; Sir C. Barry, R.A.; F. H. Bailey, Esq., R.A.; W. Boxall, Esq., R.A.; A. E. Chalon, Esq., R.A.; C. R. Cookrell, Esq., R.A.; S. Conzenz, Esq., R.A.; F. W. Cooke, Esq., R.A.; A. R.A.; W. Dyce, Esq., R.A.; G. T. Doo, Esq., R.A.; A. A. E. E. Frost, Esq., R.A.; W. P. Frith, Esq., R.A.; G. H. Ford, Esq., R.A.; Rd. Westmacott, Esq., R.A.; J. T. Wilmore, A.R.A.; Sir M. Petto, R.A.; J. Watt, Hon. Sec., J. Kettle, Esq., Port-land-terrace, St. John's-wort.

Subscriptions received by G. Sheward, Esq., Western Bank of London, Hanover-square. A list of subscribers and particulars will shortly be published.

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A NEW NOVEL in 3 vols., entitled "THE A DEAN, or the Popular Preacher" by the Author of "Anne Sherwood," will be published by MESSRS. SAUNDERS, OTLEY, and CO. about the end of next week. It is likely to prove of considerable interest to the "religious" world, the well-known characteristics of certain "Popular Preachers" being, it is said, admirably portrayed.

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THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT, CASH ACCOUNT, and BALANCE SHEET, to 31 December last, as laid before the Members of the MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, at the General Meeting on Wednesday, 16th February, 1859, is now printed, and may be had on a written or personal application at the Society's Office, 39, King-street, Cheapside, E.C. To the Report and Accounts is appended a list of names paid on the claims of the year 1858.—CHARLES INGALL, Actuary. The Mutual Life Assurance Offices, 39, King-street, Cheapside, London, E.C.

AT A MEETING of the several of the PERSONAL and PROFESSIONAL FRIENDS of the late Vice-Admiral Rt. Hon. Lord LYONS, G.C.B., &c., for the purpose of testifying their sense of regard and esteem, it was resolved,

That a subscription be raised, in order to place a tablet or other suitable monument to his memory in St. Paul's Cathedral or elsewhere, as may be hereafter determined upon.

It was further resolved,

That the subscription of each person should not exceed the sum of 3*s.*

Subscriptions will be received by MESSRS. Gosling, bankers; MESSRS. Chard, naval agents; MESSRS. Hallett, ditto; and Capt. Hon. F. Egerton, Bridgewater-house, St. James's, H.C. Sec.

ROYAL ACADEMY of ARTS, London.

12th February, 1859.—H.E. The Minister of the Netherlands has notified to the President and Council of the Royal Academy that an EXHIBITION of the FINE ARTS will be held at the HAGUE in May next, to which the Artists of the United Kingdom are invited to contribute their Works.

For particulars apply to Messrs. P. and D. COLNAGHI and Co., 13, Pall-mall, E.C.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

SOCIETY for the ENCOURAGEMENT of the FINE ARTS.

President.—The Right Hon. the EARL of CARLISLE, K.G. The CONVERSAZIONES of this Society are HELD at the FRENCH GALLERY, Pall-mall, on the Evenings of the FIRST TUESDAY in EVERY MONTH up to July (inclusive), at Eight o'clock. Works intended for exhibition on these occasions will be collected the day previous to the meeting, the name and address of exhibitor being previously transmitted to the Hon. Sec. Annual Subscription, 1*s.*—For Prospects and further particulars apply at the office of the Society, 58, Pall-mall, S.W.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS.—All Works of Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, or Engraving, intended for the ensuing EXHIBITION at the ROYAL ACADEMY, must be sent in on Monday, the 4th, or Tuesday, the 5th of April next, after which time no Work can possibly be received, nor can any Works be received which have already been publicly exhibited.

FRAMES.—All Pictures and Drawings must be in gilt frames. Oil Paintings under glass, and Drawings with wide margins are undesirable. Excessive breadth in frames as well as projecting mouldings may prevent Pictures obtaining the situation they otherwise merit. The other regulations necessary to be observed may be obtained at the Royal Academy.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

Every possible care will be taken of Works sent for exhibition, but the Royal Academy will not itself be accountable in any case of injury or loss, nor can it undertake to pay the carriage of any package.

The prices of Works to be disposed of may be communicated to the Secretary.

HANDEL COMMEMORATION.

TICKET NOTICE.—The Office at EXETER HALL will be opened to the Patrons of the Festival, and the Public generally, from and after TEN O'CLOCK THIS DAY, for the issue of Vouchers for Tickets, which for the present may be selected from the Numbered Plan. Immediate application is requisite to secure the best seats.

Exeter Hall, March 10th.

THE VOCAL ASSOCIATION.—St. JAMES'S HALL, Conductor, M. BENEDICT.—

WEDNESDAY, March 22, at Eight.—MENDELSSOHN'S "AVE MARIA" from the OPERA "LORELEY," and HANDEL'S "ACTS" and "GALATEA," with Mozart's additional Accompaniments. Principal vocal performers: Madame Catherine Hayes, Miss Louisa Vining, Miss Stabach, Mr. George Perren, Mr. Suchet Champion, and Mr. Sankey. Band and Choir of 40 performers.

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NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

The Committee have great pleasure in announcing that JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver an ORATION in EXETER HALL on MONDAY, March 21. Dr. ELLIS, of Sudbury-park, will preside.—Doors open at seven o'clock; chair taken at eight o'clock. Tickets for Reserved and Numbered Seats (if taken before five o'clock), 2*s.* 6*d.*; Platform or central seats, 1*s.* body of the hall, 6*s.* to be had at 337, Strand.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—

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A FAREWELL SEASON of M. CHARLES KEAN as MANAGER.—Last nights of the unmentioned Plays: LOUIS XI. on Monday, March the 21st; and (last time) on Friday, the 23rd.

A. MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, on Tuesday, the 22nd; and on Thursday, the 24th.

HAMLET will be performed (last time) on Wednesday, the 23rd.

The Theatre will be closed on Saturday, the 26th Inst., in consequence of a night rehearsal of KING HENRY V.

\* These plays will not be reproduced, with the exception, perhaps, of one or two representations only towards the termination of the management in the latter part of the month of July.

The public is respectfully informed, that Mr. and Mrs. C. KEAN'S Annual Benefit will take place on Monday, March the 28th, when will be produced the Historical Play of KING HENRY V., being the last Shakespearian revival under the existing management.

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[MARCH 19, 1859.]

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## THE CRITIC.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

**I**T IS NOT OFTEN that we turn aside to notice the criticisms upon ourselves with which our contemporaries favour us; but we have been attracted by the self-sufficiency of a gentleman who supplies some gossip for the *Illustrated Times*, to pay him a little more attention than we should have been inclined to offer even to his betters. This gentleman, referring to a statement which originally appeared in these columns, and has been extensively quoted throughout the kingdom, says:

Those gentlemen whose mission it is to manufacture marvellous gossip for the metropolitan journals—I do not mean the "Fashionable Entertainments," "Coming Marriage in High Life," and other Jenkinisms, but the builders-up of literary and artistic intelligence—have lately been circulating various wonderful and wholly incorrect rumours aenent the differences which exist between the proprietors of *Household Words*, and the results likely to accrue therefrom. Among other things, they have announced that Mr. Dickens will secede from *Household Words*, which will henceforth be carried on by Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, that the conductorship has been offered to Mr. Thackeray, that Mr. G. A. Sala will be a prominent contributor, and that it will have the "advantage of all the *Punch* staff." Of the good to be derived from the last-named adjunct I am unable to judge, as I never read the periodical at present sustained by these gentlemen, but the truth of the other rumours is very doubtful. The state of the case is this: a difference having arisen between Mr. Dickens on the one side, and Messrs. Bradbury and Evans on the other, *Household Words*, their joint property, will be put up for sale. I should much doubt whether a purchaser will be found for it, as its reputation originally arose solely on the strength of Mr. Dickens's name, and as such has continued. Should it not be bought, it will lapse and become defunct; but in either case Mr. Dickens intends very shortly starting, on his own account, a periodical of a similar nature, to which he will take the entire staff of present contributors, and which will commence with a new story from his own pen. I don't imagine that Mr. Thackeray, who perfectly well knows what classes of society form his audience, would undertake the conduct of a publication at the *Household Words* price; and it is perfectly certain that Mr. G. A. Sala will have nothing to do with the affair, as he has already an immensity of current work, and starts in July on a trip to the southern states of America, to pick up materials for future use.

Understanding ourselves to be indicated by "those gentlemen," just as persons take the attack upon themselves when old ladies talk at them as "parties," we must take leave to assure the well-informed writer of this (and that he is "well-informed" who shall doubt?) that, in spite of his very confident air, our statement was perfectly true at the time we made it. When the quarrel between Mr. DICKENS and his publishers was at its height (arising, as another well-informed gentleman informs us, from the refusal of Messrs. BRADBURY and EVANS to permit the famous Scandal-manifesto to appear in *Punch*), the first idea was to carry on *Household Words* without Mr. DICKENS; and Mr. THACKERAY was approached with a view to ascertaining whether he would be inclined to accept the conductorship. By the bye, what is the meaning of that ambiguous passage towards the end of the paragraph respecting the kind of audience which Mr. THACKERAY addresses? What, moreover, is the meaning of this fling at the "gentlemen of the *Punch* staff" whose lucubrations are not worthy to be read by this very fastidious critic? Let us, moreover, ask our friend whether he has not yet discovered that his statement respecting the contemplated putting-up for sale of *Household Words* is as completely negatived by the discovery of a certain clause in the partnership deed as was the original idea of carrying it on? Finally, let us ask him whether he has not been over hasty in asserting the accuracy of his own information in so confident a manner? It is very easy to deny upon "the best authority"; but then, as the late Dr. SAMUEL JOHNSON said: "Plus negabit in una hora unus asinus quam centum doctores in centum annis probaverint."

All lovers of peace and quietness will be glad to hear that Mr. CHARLES DICKENS and his friends have promised an armistice to the committee of the Literary Fund, and will not get up the annual quarrel this year at least. The reason alleged for this is, that somebody has offered something to Mr. DICKENS for the benefit of the Fund, which offer he is some day going to communicate to the committee: and it will depend entirely upon their good behaviour whether they are ever to be attacked again. This is not very definite, we must confess; but one happy result is that the accounts of the Literary Fund have been audited in peace. Is it not possible that this "something" so mysteriously hidden, may not be the five acres of land which the Muswell Hill gentlemen intend offering to the Fund?

The letter of Sir WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN (commonly called the "King of North Wales"), complaining of the conduct of the Duke of BUCKINGHAM in publishing the private letters of old Sir WATKIN, will surprise no one who understands the facts of the case. These letters, and some other documents used in the GRENVILLE correspondence, were among the few "waifs and strays" saved by the Duke when, in May, 1844, he was compelled to cede every acre of land, every stiver, and every chattel, he possessed in the world, to his son, Lord CHANDOS. He carried them off as a thrifty housewife smuggles off the spoons when the bailiffs are in; he carried them off to make his market of them. Surely it is too much for Sir WATKIN to expect that RICHARD PLANTAGENET GRENVILLE NUGENT CHANDOS TEMPLE, Duke of BUCKINGHAM and CHANDOS, K.C.B.—*nomen tuum laudesque manebunt*—when put to his devices upon a few hundreds a year, would

respect the directions of his father respecting the privacy of these letters. Would he that sent the honour of the house of CHANDOS, of GRENVILLE, and of TEMPLE, ay, of the blood that coursed in the veins of the PLANTAGENETS, to the hammer, who scattered to the winds an estate, and a fortune sanctified by the memory of great, and some of them good ancestors, care for the faith pledged to a Welsh squire, even though he were Sir WATKIN? This was to expect too much. The letters were worth money, and that was enough.

We are not sorry to perceive that the sentiments which we expressed respecting Mr. COOPER's book on "The Crisis in the Punjab" have met with a response in the House of Commons. Mr. GILPIN'S censure upon it was allowed to drop, not because it was not felt that it was deserved, but, as Lord STANLEY observed, it was better to do so. Everybody who spoke concurred in condemning the tone in which the Massacre of Ujnalla was related, and even where the necessity for the act was supposed, the cruel exultation with which it was related was execrated. As Lord STANLEY mildly put it, Mr. COOPER's language was certainly "not exactly in good taste."

The report issued by the Committee of the Newspaper Press Fund is a curious illustration of our doubts whether the inherent antagonism which is almost universal among the gentlemen of the press, would not prove a serious difficulty in their path. After a year's hard work, they have succeeded in getting together only ninety-four members. This is not a very great result for an object like this, and we feel that when the balance-sheet is drawn up, the disproportion between income and expenses will deserve some severe criticism at the hands of those severe arithmeticians who voluntarily audit the accounts of the Literary Fund. Why is this? Why are there so few of the *Times* staff upon the list? Is it true that all assistance has been refused in that quarter because of the appeal to the public for benefactions and donations?

Pertinent to this matter comes a suggestion from a correspondent of the *Morning Star*, proposing a Club, to consist exclusively of press men. Surely "Scripsi" is unaware that the idea has been started and experiments have been tried over and over again, only to fail invariably. The same laws of repulsion and attraction which proved so destructive to the Kilkenny cats were their ruin.

We have already announced that next week we shall publish such a careful analysis of the MSS. in the LIBRI sale as will be of great use to intending purchasers. The splendid catalogue of this sale is already talked of among bibliophiles as a thing of value in itself. Of value to M. LIBRI it certainly has been, seeing that the two thousand copies of it printed have cost him 400/-—no small sum, when we recollect that the compilation and annotation of it were furnished by himself. After the sale of the MSS., and probably some time in May, M. LIBRI's printed books will be sold, comprising a number of block-books, hitherto unknown to connoisseurs; rare copies on vellum; Aldine treasures; *editiones principes*; old poetical books and chivalric romances; and one of the most splendid collections of historical bindings extant, showing the progress of the bibliophilic art from the fifteenth century to the present day. The catalogue of this collection is in course of preparation by M. LIBRI; but we regret to hear that he is now confined to his bed by illness, and is totally unable to continue it. Should this illness be of long duration, the sale of the printed books will have to be postponed.

THE Programme of the Examinations to be held for Trinity Term, issued by the Council of Legal Education, and signed RICHARD BETHELL, Chairman, have appeared without any intimation of the projected alterations which we mentioned some weeks' back. Nothing is said about preliminary examinations for students, before allowing them to become members of Inns, and nothing about a compulsory examination before being called to the Bar. From this we are inclined to suppose either that there exists a very considerable difference of opinion between the members of the Council, or that it has been determined upon to relinquish the scheme. In either case we shall not be dissatisfied; least of all in the latter event. The more we reflect upon it the more we are convinced that harm, and not good, would result from the adoption of the examination system. Let any one who knows anything about the law say whether he ever knew a sound lawyer who was a general one? and whether the opinion of any man is absolutely to be relied upon who has not focussed his mind, as it were, upon one single branch of the law? It may, perhaps, suit the purpose of a few students to win the fifty-pounds studentships and the precedence of a term or so over their competitors by cramming for the examination, and getting a sort of legal sciolism into their heads; but we are afraid that their success in the performance will scarcely indorse the wisdom of such a mode of proceeding. Take, for example, the papers set for the examinations of the coming term. Here we find that the candidates are expected to pass muster in Constitutional Law, the History of the Law of Real Property, of the Law of Treason, and of the Laws relating to the Press, and they will be expected to be well acquainted with the most remarkable State Trials before the reign of George III. Thus, if his prospects indicate to him no wider or more ambitious range than Clerkenwell Sessions and the Old Bailey, he must be well up in Hallam, know all about the intricate history of landed property law from the creation of seoffs to the invention of trusts, and so down through the period when satisfied uses were abolished to the present more sensible days of lease and release. In addition to this, he is expected to know all about the history of treason,

when constructive treason was invented, and how it came about that to debauch a princess of the blood was made treason against the sovereign. Then again he must be able, if so required, to tell the tale—and tell it in legal language too—of how the battle of the press has been nearly won; how libels, anti-religious and anti-governmental, were invented to crush free writers; and how we have gradually won our way to these happy days when a man is excused from being treated as a liar if he can prove that he has spoken truth. Then again, it is not enough to know how to prosecute BILL JONES for pocket-picking; he must know also how STRAFFORD was arraigned, and how RALEIGH, SIDNEY, and MARY of SCOTLAND were tried.

In addition to all this, the Reader on Equity lies in wait to pose him upon "Hayne's Outlines of Equity;" "Smith's Manual of Equity Jurisprudence;" "Hunter's Elementary View of the Proceedings in a Suit in Equity," pt. 1. The cases and notes contained in the first volume of "White and Tudor's Leading Cases;" "Mitsford on the Pleadings in the Court of Chancery," Introduction; cap. 1, sec. 1 and 2; cap. 1, sec. 3 (the first six pages); cap. 2, sec. 1; cap. 2, sec. 2, pt. 1 (the first three pages); cap. 2, sec. 2, pt. 2 (the first two pages); cap. 2, sec. 2, pt. 3; cap. 3. Whilst the Reader on the Law of Real Property is lying in wait for him with "Joshua Williams on the Law of Real Property," fifth Edition; "Hayes on the Common Law Uses and Trusts;" "The Charitable Trusts Act (9th of Geo. II., cap. 36); Corbyn v. French (4 Ves., 418), and the notes to that case in "Tudor's Leading Cases in Conveyancing," 408; "The Order and Priority of Incumbrances upon Real and Personal Property;" "Fisher on Mortgages," cap. 7, pp. 341—468. "Sugden on Powers," caps. 1, 3, and 5, seventh edition. Whilst, if he still have any wits left, the Reader on Jurisprudence and Civil Law proposes to deprive him of them with "Phillimore's Introduction to the Study of the Roman Law," pt. 1, cap. 3 to the end of cap. 7; "The Institutes of Justinian," bks. 2 and 3, from title 14, with the notes in Sandar's edit. The last two titles of the last book of the "Digest"—De Verborum Significatione, De Regulis Juris.

Surely one would suppose that his pain and travail were over, and that he might now be permitted to reach the hardly won goal. Not so; for the Reader on Common Law still stands in the way, and insists upon being satisfied as to the candidate's knowledge of the Ordinary Proceedings and Course of Pleading in an Action at Law; the Law of Contracts, so far as treated of in "Broom's Commentaries," bk. 2, in connection with which should be read the Mercantile Law Amendment Act (19th and 20th Vict., cap. 97); "Stephen's Commentaries," 4th edit. bk. 5, of Civil Injuries, caps. 1, 7, 8, and 9; the Law of Simple Larceny, Assault, Homicide, and Murder, as treated in the last edit. of "Archbold's Cr. Pl." by Welsby. Now will any one pretend to tell us that any man now at the bar—take Sir RICHARD BETHELL himself—would have passed such an examination without cramming; and will any one be good enough to inform us whether any good ever came of cramming yet; whether there has not rather been great harm? We repeat that it is impossible for any man to spread his mind over such a surface of law in such a way as to gain more than a smattering of it, without losing his power of concentration upon some one point. And what is to become of those men who hold their position at the Bar not by their acquirements as lawyers, but by their talents as advocates? Is it to be deemed that these men have no value in the profession? When the late Mr. Serjeant WILKINS (one of the most eloquent men that ever addressed a jury) was interrupted by the judge with a technical question, he replied with great frankness, "Really, my lord, I must refer you to my junior; I am an advocate, *not a lawyer*." Little knew he, and little know many bright ornaments of the present Bar of "The Institutes of Justinian," "Sugden's Powers," and "Hayne's Outlines." Yet such men fill a bright position, if not a more useful one, than the learned, plodding legal drones who swarm upon the hinder benches, with plenty of books in their heads, but a scanty show of briefs in their bags. Every way we look at it we are convinced that the adoption of the examination system will be a hindrance to the progress of the profession, and we trust that the omission of all mention of it in Sir RICHARD BETHELL's programme is an indication that it has been abandoned.

We have already stated that when we attributed the authorship of "The Vestiges" to Mr. GEORGE COMBE, we did so upon the authority of one whose name is second to that of none in the world of science,—perhaps we should have indicated the source of our information more clearly had we said, whose name has no equal. We are now in a position to state the grounds upon which this conclusion was arrived at by the person indicated. When "The Vestiges" first appeared he felt satisfied, as well from the style as from internal evidence, that COMBE was the author of it. To test this he made certain corrections of a few misstatements of recondite facts, and caused those corrections to be shown to GEORGE COMBE, and to him only; but when the second edition appeared those mistakes, and those only, were found to have been corrected. This was pretty strong inferential evidence; but it so happened that afterwards a long private correspondence took place between this personage and Mr. COMBE, arising out of some points mooted in "The Vestiges," especially phrenological ones—the former combating Mr. COMBE's views, which were entirely in unison with those of the author of "The Vestiges." But what is more conclusive than all this is the fact, that during the whole of that correspondence the person to whom we have referred invariably assumed Mr. COMBE to be, and addressed him as, the author of "The Vestiges," and this was never denied, or in any way contradicted by Mr. COMBE. From these facts, and from that time forth, it became a settled conviction in his mind that Mr. GEORGE COMBE was the author of "The Vestiges,"—and we are not surprised at it. It is upon this authority that the catalogue of the British Museum has been altered, and the book will now be found under the head of GEORGE COMBE, instead of, as formerly, under that of ROBERT CHAMBERS.

Since writing the above, we find that Professor NICHOL has once more replied to us, not directly, but in the *North British Daily Mail*. His letter is as follows:

SIR,—I beg to assure the editor of the CRITIC that I did not make the statement contained in my last note in anywise on the ground that Mr. Combe never told me that he had written the "Vestiges of Creation." I denied and deny that he did so, because of my own position and immediate knowledge. It is open to all who are concerned about the question to take my assertion at the value which may seem to each person to belong to it. I cannot expect the editor of the CRITIC to place my averment against that of his "authority," although I would beg to suggest that the mere fact of his informant being "an eminent scientific man" cannot by itself weigh much in evidence. As to my own conjectures concerning the authorship of the volume referred to—even if I have formed any—it is very clear that this point is not at all involved in the proposition I felt it right to lay down.—I am, &c., J. P. NICHOL.

Mr. NICHOL must pardon us if we think that his assertion is not equal in value to that of the "eminent scientific man" upon whose evidence our own statement and the correction in the British Museum Catalogue are alike based, and he must allow us to say that his own "conjectures concerning the authorship of the volume referred to" are very much involved in the proposition he has laid down. We named a name, and have now given the grounds for doing so. Mr. NICHOL has done neither; he has merely given a flat contradiction; admitting at the same time that he has nothing but "conjectures" to rely upon.

A correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, signing "J. S.", has also joined in the controversy with no small air of assurance that he knows all about it. This gentleman, however, only revives the theory about Mr. ROBERT CHAMBERS, and produces the testimony of Mr. PAGE, as if that were something quite new—the editor indorsing the CHAMBERS theory, and not understanding "how any discerning person who has read both the 'Constitution of Man' and the 'Vestiges' can believe Mr. GEORGE COMBE to have been the author of the latter work." Now, although we are not authorised to print the name of the man of science from whom we derive our authority, we have no objection, if so requested, to furnish it privately to either Professor NICHOL or the editor of the *Manchester Guardian*, feeling sure that the former will admit that it represents an authority at least equal to his own, and that the latter will have no difficulty in understanding that it belongs to "a discerning person."

## ENGLISH LITERATURE.

### CHARLES JAMES FOX.

*The Life and Times of Charles James Fox.* By the Right Honourable

LORD JOHN RUSSELL, M.P. Vol. I. London: Bentley. pp. 366.

THERE SEEMS IN THIS CASE a great congruity between the subject and the writer who handles it; between that "tried friend of civil and religious liberty," the "late Mr. Fox," and the "noble lord" who undertakes to describe his life and times. But the congruity is more apparent than real. Something more goes to successful life-writing than identity of principles in the biographer and biographee. Boswell differed from Dr. Johnson on the right of the mother country to tax the Americans. Lord John's views on the subject are exactly those of Mr. Fox. But Boswell's

Life of Johnson is an infinitely better biography than Lord John's Life of Fox can ever be. Boozzy loved the man whose life he wrote. Lord John evidently has no affection for Fox, highly as he may regard his talents and warmly as he may adhere to his political principles. There must be some human feeling of genuine sympathy to make a biography a good one. This present, a Johnson's life of a poor miserable Savage is enchaining; this absent, the same great writer's biography of a lofty Milton is intolerable. All Dr. Whewell's admiration of the Baconian philosophy would not fit him to undertake a biography of James's Chancellor. Mr. McCulloch, we suspect, would make a poor figure if he were set down to write a life of Adam Smith. It is the absence of the human sympathetic element in this first volume of Lord John's life of Fox that strikes us as its greatest

deficiency. All else might be forgiven. The want of literary art and grasp, the immense citations from speeches, the incondite, fragmentary, helpless manner of the work might be pardoned if it were pervaded by anything like enthusiasm or admiration. It is a lump of ice. Lord John may say that he couldn't help it, and that he purposely professes, which is true, to write the public, not the private life of Fox. How expect him to love the man Fox, the gambler, the debauchee, who instead of emancipating the Jews, kept them in servile attendance on him, and scoffingly called the ante-room in which they waited his "Jerusalem Chamber." Then why undertake the task? Lord John Russell has done his duty to his great "principal" in editing the "Memorials of Charles James Fox," a year or two ago brought to a conclusion, and which afford an admirable quarry of material for a genuine biography of the great Whig. Was there no lively young Liberal to try his hand on a graphic and clever life of the apostle of the sect? Sheridan found a congenial biographer in Thomas Moore, surely a less icy and more dexterous one than Thomas Moore's noble editor might have been discovered among the politicians and *littérateurs* of the great Liberal party.

The book is the merest affair of scissors. Not an anecdote that has not been told before, not a criticism, scarcely an opinion, that is above mediocrity. Lord John Russell has been working in the region of Fox's life and times for several years, yet there is not in his volume a scrap even of novel information, historical, biographical, or genealogical. His principal personages, his Norths and Chathams, are impressions from old worn-out plates, and as to the subordinate characters he does not take the trouble to get up the slightest sketches of his own, but falls back on quotations from Horace Walpole. We have the story of the American war told again, and in the most slip-shod fashion, as if the English public had never heard before of Burgoyne and Cornwallis, Washington and Major André. It is all echo and extract. At the same time, we cheerfully grant that Lord John generally writes (when, instead of quoting, he does write) with simplicity and a sort of aristocratic dignity, and that, if he is for the most part commonplace, he is never absurd. His frigidity, too, preserves him from the *furor biographicus*. If he has none of the enthusiasm, he has none of the follies and exaggerations of the hero-worshipper. Nay, here and there, it may be further allowed, his long political and parliamentary experience enables him to make a shrewd remark or two on the combinations of statesmen and the tactics of parties, which could scarcely have occurred to one less cognisant of the peculiar arena in which the public life of Fox was passed.

The political fame of the statesman who writes the work and the traditional reputation of the statesman about whom it is written will secure the book a certain audience; and, after the completion of the dull "Memorials," we need not despair of seeing Lord John's promised fourth volume drag its slow length along. The work will have its readers, and those who know little of the times which it describes may learn something from it. One impression it cannot fail to produce on all but the bigoted *laudatores temporis acti*. If our politicians are not models of perfection, patriotism, and purity, they are not so very much worse than their predecessors of the golden age of Pitt and Fox, of Burke and Sheridan. Statesmen without Chatham's grandeur would scarcely now blunder as he did in allowing subordinate divisions of view to weaken the force of his opposition to the American war. Premiers of Lord Rockingham's high and unsullied character may be rare, but even our worst show more energy and decision. We may have no parliamentary orators of Fox's calibre and fascinating disposition, yet few of our most inconsistent and variable public men have displayed the glaring errors of public conduct which Lord John calmly and candidly admits to have marked up to middle age the career of Charles James Fox.

As Pitt, the future hero of Tory clubs, entered public life as a Whig, so Fox, the future hero of Whig clubs (a Fox club meets at Brookes's periodically to this day) made his *début* as a Tory. After a youth in which hard study was singularly blended with dissipation, he found himself at the age of twenty, member for Midhurst, the borough recently honoured by having for its representative the author of the "Diary of a Late Physician." The future enemy of the court and friend of the people made his first speech in the House of Commons in favour of the expulsion of Wilkes from Parliament! "His doctrines," very mildly says Lord John, "at this time of his life were neither favourable to popular liberty nor agreeable to the practice of the constitution." He was rewarded by a Junior Lordship of the Admiralty, under Lord North, and in a year or two more he was promoted to a Lordship of the Treasury. His secession from office was occasioned by no sudden conversion to popular principles. Scarcely had he been a twelvemonth in his new position, when the question arose before the House whether Woodfall (the printer of Junius) should be committed to Newgate. "Fox burst out against the press and the City," and moved the commitment. What follows gives an odd idea of the mutual relations of ministers, majorities, and sovereigns in those days. Lord North was dragged into supporting his subordinate, but ordered his followers to vote on the other side. The Premier was left in a minority. Profound was the indignation of George III., who wrote next day to his minister that he was "greatly incensed with Charles Fox," and greatly obliged to Lord North "for making your friends vote in the majority." Poor Charles, according to his Sovereign, "has so thoroughly cast off every principle of common honour and honesty, that he must become as contemptible as he is odious. I hope you will let him know that you are not insensible of his conduct

towards you." Soon afterwards the young Lord of the Treasury felt the weight of the royal displeasure unmistakeably. He received from the Premier the following laconic note: "His Majesty has thought proper to order a new commission of Treasury to be made out, in which I do not see your name.—NORTH." Fancy such things happening nowadays in Parliament and out of it!

The young politician rushed to the gaming-table and into opposition. Is it very uncharitable to suppose that but for this check given to his high-handed treatment of "the press and the City," Charles James Fox might have remained a member of the North ministry, and made the insurgent Americans feel his love of arbitrary power? However, he went into opposition. Let it be granted that for years, under the most dispiriting circumstances, he remained with the minority which opposed the unjust treatment of the Americans by the mother country. So far credit is his due. And here, Lord John Russell makes some judicious remarks, not altogether original, but perhaps bringing out an often overlooked truth more clearly than is common even in "liberal" narratives of the events connected with the separation of the colonies from the mother country. The two parties, or sections of a party, which supported or sympathised with the Americans, were headed by Lord Chatham and Lord Rockingham respectively. But they were divided as to the true policy to be pursued towards America. Mr. Pitt maintained that the British Parliament had no right to impose taxes on the colonies, while he asserted that we had a right to fetter their trade, and once he even declared, on behalf of the English manufacturers, that "he would not allow the Americans to make a horseshoe nail in their own country." Lord Rockingham and Burke, on the other hand, maintained the right of Parliament to legislate for America, even in cases of taxation. But they were for a liberal policy towards the American trade, a policy to which Mr. Pitt would not listen. On this divergence in the views of the opposition, Lord John Russell observes very justly:

It was unfortunate that this difference of opinion kept aloof from each other Lord Rockingham and Mr. Pitt, who, with their respective followers, were the only men and the only parties who could have withstood the personal policy of the King, and have reconciled the thirteen colonies to the parent state. Had Lord Rockingham yielded on the question of taxation, and Mr. Pitt on that of commerce—had Mr. Pitt combined with Lord Rockingham, instead of sneering at his weakness—rivers of blood would have been spared, and England would have been saved the ignominy of defeat in an unjust cause.

George III.'s obstinacy has much to answer for; but it is candid of Lord John Russell to admit that the leaders of the opposition were not blameless.

At last, in spite of stubborn George III. and easy Lord North, the Americans triumphed, and with them the consistent advocate of their claims, Charles James Fox. Lord North's immense majorities dwindled away. On the 20th of March, 1782, he came down to the House to announce his resignation. The story has been told before, although Lord John Russell, who says he heard it from Mr. Adam, does not seem to be aware of the fact; but it will bear repetition. No one, save the Sovereign, was in the secret. The resignation was announced to the House, and it broke up. The snow was falling, and the afternoon was bitterly cold. Lord North had kept his carriage. As he passed to it, many of his opponents were shivering in the doorway. He stepped into his carriage, and said cheerfully to his victorious enemies, with a bow, "Gentlemen, you see the advantage of being in the secret." Lord John's version is, "Good night, gentlemen; it is the first time I have known the advantage of being in the secret." In either case the anecdote is characteristic of the minister—one of those good, easy men, who, in positions for which they are unfitted, can do so much mischief without meaning it.

Lord Rockingham's second administration ensued, and Fox was one of the Secretaries of the State—then there were only two. He quarrelled with his other colleague, Lord Shelburne, no doubt justifiably; and, on the accession of the Duke of Portland, he resigned his Secretaryship. He went, after a very brief tenure of power, once more into opposition. He had been long in opposition previously as an advocate of the American claims, and the "cause of the people" which they included. He had quarrelled with Lord Shelburne because, in his opinion, the concessions to the Americans were not sufficient. Scarcely eight months had elapsed before he, the philo-American, coalesced with Lord North, the promoter and sustainer of the American war, on whom he had for years lavished invective of a vehemence unknown in these comparatively decorous days of parliamentary oratory! He, the patriot, the parliamentary reformer, the stanch supporter of Burke's schemes for economic reform, agreed with Lord North, according to Lord John Russell himself, "that economical reform had been carried far enough, and that in parliamentary reform every man should follow his own opinion." Nothing in the political history of our generation can be found to parallel this shameless coalition, which procured the future ascendancy of Pitt. Lord John Russell calls it "the one great political error of his life," and declares that it "finally ruined the Whig party." It is at this point that the biography is suspended. The next volume will doubtless show the penal consequences of the great Whig's "great political error." In these days of political self-reproach, there is perhaps a sad consolation in seeing that all was not wisdom and virtue with our ancestors, even with those of them who enjoy the reputation of having been "consistent friends of civil and religious liberty!"

## AMONG THE REDSKINS.

*Wanderings of an Artist among the Indians of North America, from Canada to Vancouver's Island and Oregon, through the Hudson's Bay Company's Territory; and Back Again.* By PAUL KANE. London: Longmans. 1 vol. pp. 455.

**WHETHER THE INDIAN** is the degraded being which he is represented to be by partial settlers and prejudiced backwoodsmen, or the demigod which the late Mr. Fenimore Cooper loved to paint him; whether he is cruel, treacherous, sensual, debased, the collector of scalps, the oppressor of squaws, and the consumer of fire-water, or noble, dignified, brave, faithful, of few words, but eloquent of speech; whether, in fact, he is Magua or Uncas, Logan or The Howling Wind? These are questions not yet definitely settled in the opinions of some inquirers. The volume before us is admirably calculated to convince many minds vacillating upon the point, that the truth, as it generally does, lies equidistant between the two extremes; and that Indians, like most other people, present great varieties of character and of habits, some tribes and individuals being as bad as the worst calumniators of the race have asserted all to be, and others presenting excellent traits of character which are rare enough even in civilised life.

Mr. Kane, the author of this book, has enjoyed unusual opportunities for gaining information. Partly from a love of art, and partly from a love of roving, he spent some time in going among the Indian tribes in remote parts of the North American wilds which the foot of the white man had seldom trodden. The wildest and most barren tracts of that vast and mysterious region over which the Hudson's Bay Company exercises such an uncertain and not unprofitable sway, were visited by him. Becoming acclimated, as it were, and acquiring an intimate knowledge of their ways and means of life, he moved among the Indians almost like one of themselves, though deriving considerable protection and importance from his superior knowledge, both real and assumed. His sketch-book was a great advantage and assistance to him; for it not only enabled him to carry away faithful copies of what he saw, but it was occasionally used as a means of reducing these poor simple people to compliance with his wishes; for such is the extent of their superstition, that they actually believe that to take a portrait of them is to submit them to a kind of slavery by giving the owner of the picture some kind of control over their liberty. Accordingly, although Mr. Kane occasionally found it far from easy to persuade a pretty Cree girl to favour him with a sitting, he more than once rid himself of a troublesome fellow by gravely proceeding to take his portrait. Plentiful as are the illustrations with which the volume is enriched, we have occasionally reason to regret the omission of many which he refers to. Thus we should have liked very well to have become more particularly acquainted with the personality of Coe-coosh, alias "The Hog," a Pottowattomie blackleg of such skill that he has been known to win the very mocassins from his adversary's feet; nor should we have had any objection to know something of the outward seeming of Us-koos-koosiah, or "Young Grass," a Cree brave, who expressed his dissatisfaction at not finding all his "honourable scars" in his portrait, never heeding what was their locality. To be sure it is some consolation to have a fine coloured picture of Man-ce-muct, the chief of the Skeens, who "do not flatten their heads;" and of Kee-a-kee-ka-saa-ka-wow, the great medicine pipe-stem bearer; and, above all, of thee, thou beauteous half-bred maiden of the Crees, the lovely Cun-ne-wa-bum, or "One that looks like the stars," whose comely countenance adorns the frontispiece of the volume. That Mr. Kane had the true artist's passion for "making a sketch," and never neglected an opportunity of doing so, must be plain enough from the following story. He was one day engaged in the exciting sport of buffalo-hunting:

I again joined in the pursuit; and coming up with a large bull, I had the satisfaction of bringing him down at the first fire. Excited by my success, I threw down my cap, and galloping on, soon put a bullet through another enormous animal. He did not, however, fall, but stopped and faced me, pawing the earth, bellowing and glaring savagely at me. The blood was streaming profusely from his mouth, and I thought he would soon drop. The position in which he stood was so fine that I could not resist the desire of making a sketch. I accordingly dismounted, and had just commenced, when he suddenly made a dash at me. I had hardly time to spring on my horse and get away from him, leaving my gun and everything else behind. When he came up to where I had been standing, he turned over the articles I had dropped, pawing fiercely as he tossed them about, and then retreated towards the herd. I immediately recovered my gun, and, having reloaded, again pursued him, and soon planted another shot in him; and this time he remained on his legs long enough for me to make a sketch.

The greatest admirer of the Indian character is unable to deny that their spirit of revenge and disregard of human life, is scarcely to be surpassed by the most savage tribes. The slightest offence will lead to a *vendetta* only to be appeased by human blood; and as each successive murder breeds a host of others, it may be said truly of many Indians that their lives are passed in inflicting and avenging injuries. So indiscriminate are they in these applications of the *lex talionis*, that the kindred of a slain man never stop to inquire whether the victim is a relative of the murderer—it is enough if he belong to the same tribe; and if a white man be the slayer, it is probable that they will kill the first white man they meet. Their lust for killing seems indeed to amount to quite a passion, for the hunters, not contented with killing what game they require for food, will destroy herds of buffaloes

which they know they can never consume. Their mode of buffalo-hunting is very curious:

A man mounted on a fleet horse, usually rides forth till he sees a band of buffaloes. This may be sixteen or eighteen miles distant from the ground, but of course the nearer to it the better. The hunter immediately strikes a light with a flint and steel, and places the lighted spark in a handful of dried grass, the smoke arising from which the buffaloes soon smell and start away from it at the top of their speed. The man now rides up alongside of the herd, which, from some unaccountable propensity, invariably endeavour to cross in front of his horse. I have had them follow me for miles in order to do so. The hunter thus possesses an unfailing means, wherever the pound may be situated, of conducting them to it by the dexterous management of his horse. Indians are stationed at intervals behind the posts, or dead men provided with buffalo robes, who, when the herd are once in the avenue, rise up and shake the robes, yelling and urging them on until they get into the inclosure, the spot usually selected for which is one with a tree in the centre. On this they hang offerings to propitiate the Great Spirit to direct the herd towards it. A man is also placed in the tree with a medicine pipe-stem in his hand, which he waves continually, chanting a sort of prayer to the Great Spirit, the burden of which is that the buffaloes may be numerous and fat. As soon as all the herd are within the pound, the entrance is immediately closed with logs, the buffaloes running round and round one after another, and very rarely attempting to break out, which would not be difficult, from the insufficiency of the structure. Should one succeed in doing so the whole herd immediately follows. When once in the inclosure the Indians soon despatch them with their arrows and spears. Whilst the buffaloes were being driven in, the scene was certainly exciting and picturesque; but the slaughter in the inclosure was more painful than pleasing. This had been the third herd that had been driven into this pound within the last ten or twelve days, and the putrefying carcasses tainted the air all round. The Indians in this manner destroy innumerable buffaloes, apparently from the mere pleasure of the thing, I have myself seen a pound so filled up with their dead carcasses that I could scarcely imagine how the inclosure could have contained them while living. It is not unusual to drive in so many that their aggregate bulk forces down the barriers. There are thousands of them annually killed in this manner; but not one in twenty is used in any way by the Indians, so that thousands are left to rot where they fall. I heard of a pound, too far out of my direct road to visit, formed entirely of the bones of dead buffaloes that had been killed in a former pound on the same spot, piled up in a circle similarly to the logs above described. This improvidence in not saving the meat often exposes them to great hardships during the seasons of the year in which the buffalo migrates to the south.

To return, however, to this disregard of life, Mr. Kane tells of one man who actually killed his own mother, because she was too old and too weak to bear the fatigues of a journey, and yet the man seemed to think that he had performed a religious duty by his parent:

After relating various stories of his war and hunting exploits, he, to my great astonishment, told me that he had killed his own mother. It appears that, while travelling, she told him that she felt too old and feeble to sustain the hardships of life, and too lame to travel any further, and asked him to take pity on her, and end her misery, on which he unhesitatingly shot her on the spot. I asked him whereabouts he had directed his ball. His reply was, "Do you think I would shoot her in a bad place? I hit her there; pointing his finger to the region of the heart. "She died instantly, and I cried at first; but after I buried her, the impression wore off."

Another Indian wished to kill his wife in order that she might accompany the spirit of their son to the happy hunting-grounds, alleging as a reason that she had been necessary to the comfort of the boy in this world. The poor woman managed, however, to escape, and take refuge in a British fort.

To pass, however, to more innocuous, though scarcely less revolting vices, it may be noted that the Chinooks or Flatheads appear to bear the palm among the Redskins for the folly and filthiness of their customs. One of these is to distort the heads of their infants by a horrible instrument, which reduces the head to a shape not much unlike that which peculiarly characterised King Louis-Philippe. Hence their name. The process is fully described, and a picture given of a Flathead woman and child, illustrating at the same time the process and its disfiguring results :

The process is as follows: The Indian mothers all carry their infants strapped to a piece of board covered with moss or loose fibres of cedar bark, and in order to flatten the head they place a pad on the infant's forehead, on the top of which is laid a piece of smooth bark, bound on by a leather band passing through holes in the board on either side, and kept tightly pressed across the front of the head—a sort of pillow of grass or cedar fibres being placed under the back of the neck to support it. This process commences with the birth of the infant, and is so continued for a period of from eight to twelve months, by which time the head has lost its natural shape, and acquired that of a wedge; the front of the skull flat and higher at the crown, giving it a most unnatural appearance. It might be supposed, from the extent to which this is carried, that the operation would be attended with great suffering to the infant, but I have never heard the infants crying or moaning, although I have seen the eyes seemingly starting out of the sockets from the great pressure. But, on the contrary, when the lashings were removed, I have noticed them cry until they were replaced. From the apparent dullness of the children whilst under the pressure, I should imagine that a state of torpor or insensibility is induced, and that the return to consciousness occasioned by its removal, must be naturally followed by the sense of pain.

That virtue which is proverbially said to be next to godliness seems to be little appreciated by these savages :

Their habits are extremely filthy, their persons abounding with vermin, and one of their chief amusements consists in picking these disgusting insects from each other's heads and eating them. On my asking an Indian one day why he ate them, he replied that they bit him, and he gratified his revenge by biting them in return. It might naturally be supposed that they are thus beset from want of combs, or other means of displacing the intruders; but this is not the case, as they pride themselves on carrying such companions about them, and giving their friends the opportunity of amusing themselves by hunting and eating them.

But perhaps the most curious example of the extraordinary tastes of this people is the account which Mr. Kane gives of the preparation

of a delicacy known among the whites as Chinook olives. This delicacy is prepared by placing a quantity of acorns at the bottom of a hole dug close to the entrance of the lodge, which hole is subsequently put to a similar use with the half-buried tubs which are so puzzling to travellers in the broadcloth-making districts in the west of England. In about five months the condiment is considered to be fit for use. What vintage is considered most suitable to these olives is not mentioned by Mr. Kane.

The Clallum Indians are as uncivilised and degraded as the Chinook or Flatheads. When a chief is inaugurated he has to undergo a long preliminary fast :

At the end of the period assigned, the tribe prepared a great feast. After covering himself with a thick covering of grease and gooseshow, he rushed into the midst of the village, seized a small dog, and began devouring it alive, this being a customary preliminary on such occasions. The tribe collected about him singing and dancing in the wildest manner, on which he approached those whom he most regarded, and bit their bare shoulders or arms, which was considered by them as a high mark of distinction, more especially those from whom he took the piece clean out and swallowed it. Of the women he took no notice. I have seen many men on the North-west coast of the Pacific who bore frightful marks of what they regarded as an honourable distinction; nor is this the only way in which their persons become disfigured. I have myself seen a young girl bleeding most profusely from gashes inflicted by her own hand over her arms and bosom with a sharp flint, on the occasion of losing a near relative.

These Indians have among them the institution of slavery, and there is every reason to suppose that it is an aboriginal custom, and not one assumed by imitating their neighbours in the United States. It is their custom to reduce to slavery all those taken in war, and all those belonging to other tribes who have the misfortune to fall into their hands. The treatment which these experience at the hands of their captors is such as would startle even a Southern planter. One chief was known to sacrifice five slaves to an idol of wood, "barbarously murdering them at the base, and asking in a boasting manner who amongst them could afford to kill so many slaves." The Taw-wa-tins, a tribe in the middle of New Caledonia, a custom prevails not unlike the Suttee of India :

The dead body of the husband is laid naked upon a large heap of resinous wood, his wife is then placed upon the body and covered over with a skin; the pile is then lighted, and the poor woman is compelled to remain until she is nearly suffocated, when she is allowed to descend as best she can through the smoke and flames. No sooner, however, does she reach the ground, than she is expected to prevent the body from becoming distorted by the action of the fire on the muscles and sinews; and whenever such an event takes place she must, with her own hands, restore the burning corpse to its proper position; her person being the whole time exposed to the scorching effects of the intense heat. Should she fail in the due performance of this indispensable rite, from weakness or the intensity of her pain, she is held up by some one until the body is consumed. A continual singing and beating of drums is kept up throughout the ceremony, which drowns her cries. Afterwards she must collect the unconsumed pieces of bone and ashes, and put them into a bag made for the purpose, which she has to carry on her back for three years; remaining for the time a slave to her husband's relations, and being neither allowed to wash nor comb herself for the whole time, so that she soon becomes a most disgusting object. At the expiration of the three years, a feast is given by her tormentors, who invite all the friends and relatives of her and themselves. At the commencement they deposit with great ceremony the remains of the burnt dead in a box, which they affix to the top of a high pole, and dance around it. The widow is then stripped naked and smeared from head to foot with fish oil, over which one of the bystanders throws a quantity of swan's down, covering her entire person. She is then obliged to dance with the others. After all this is over, she is free to marry again, if she have the inclination, and courage enough to venture on a second risk of being roasted alive and the subsequent horrors. It has often happened that a widow who has married a second husband, in the hope perhaps of not outliving him, committed suicide in the event of her second husband's death, rather than undergo a second ordeal. I was unable to learn any explanation of the motive for these cruel rites, and can only account for them in the natural selfishness, laziness, and cruelty of the Indians, who probably hope by these means to render their wives more attentive to their personal ease and comfort; whilst, at the same time, it secures them from assassination either by a jealous or an errant spouse.

Maidens on their preferment among the Taw-wa-tins must be very circumspect in choosing a husband with a "good life" when they brave such an ordeal as this.

In the cold, inhospitable climate of the North-west Coast are to be found tribes living in a state of hardship of which we can form but a slight idea from description :

The Walla-Walla Indians live almost entirely upon salmon throughout the whole year. In the summer season they inhabit lodges made of mats of rushes spread on poles. Owing to the absence of trees in their vicinity, they have to depend for the small quantity of fuel which they require upon the drift-wood, which they collect from the river in spring. In the winter they dig a large circular excavation in the ground, about ten or twelve feet deep, and from forty to fifty feet in circumference, and cover it over with split logs, over which they place a layer of mud collected from the river. A hole is left at one side of this roofing, large enough for one person to enter at a time. A stick with notches reaches to the bottom of the excavation, and serves as a ladder, by means of which they ascend and descend into the subterranean dwelling. Here twelve or fifteen persons burrow through the winter, having little or no occasion for fuel; their food of dried salmon being most frequently eaten uncooked, and the place being excessively warm from the numbers congregated together in so small and confined a space. They are frequently obliged, by the drifting billows of sand, to close the aperture, when the heat and stench become unsupportable to all but those accustomed to it. The drifting of the sand is a frightful feature in this barren waste. Great numbers of the Indians lose their sight, and even those who have not suffered to so great an extent, have the appearance of labouring under intense inflammation of these organs. The salmon, while in the process of drying, also become filled with sand to such an extent as to wear away the teeth of the Indians, and an Indian is seldom met with over forty years of age whose teeth are not worn quite to the gums.

The specimens of life and manners of the Redskins which we have selected from Mr. Kane's most entertaining book are not, we must confess, the most prepossessing; but they certainly seem to us the most curious and worthy of quotation. So much has been said about the chivalry and the nobility of the Indian, that a little touch of photographic truth on the other side of the view will do no harm. Easy would it have been, even in this book, to have picked out passages showing the Indian in a more favourable light, and we are willing to believe that still farther south of the latitudes visited by Mr. Kane, tribes of Indians exist who, both by their own natures and the reflection of civilisation, if we may so speak, which they have borrowed in their intercourse with the whites, come nearer to the standard of morality, humanity, and decency, which is usually accepted among civilised people. The Chinooks and the Clallums may be, if you will, the Pariahs of even the backwoods. Be it so. Yet they exist, and the fact is a strange one.

#### AMERICAN BIBLIOGRAPHY.

*Trübner's Bibliographical Guide to American Literature: a Classified List of Books published in the United States during the last Forty Years.* By NICOLAS TRÜBNER. London: Trübner and Co. 1 vol. pp. 554.

**T**O SAY OF THIS VOLUME that it entirely fulfils the promise of its title-page is possibly the highest and most truthful commendation that can be awarded to it. Mr. Trübner deserves, however, something beyond general praise for the patient and intelligent labour with which he has elaborated the earlier forms of the work into that which it now bears. What was once but a scanty volume has now become magnified under his care to one of considerable size; and what was once little better than a dry catalogue, may now take rank as a bibliographical work of first-rate importance. His position as an American literary agent has doubtless been very favourable to Mr. Trübner by throwing matter in his way; and he confesses in his preface that it is to this source that he is mainly indebted for the materials which have enabled him to construct the work before us. Mr. Trübner's object in compiling this book is, he states, twofold: "On the one hand to suggest the necessity of a more perfect work of its kind by an American, surrounded as he necessarily would be with the needful appliances; and, on the other, to supply to Europeans a guide to Anglo-American literature—a branch which, by its rapid rise and increasing importance, begins to force itself more and more on our attention." It is very modest in Mr. Trübner thus to treat his work as a mere suggestion for others. It is much more than this: it is an example which those who attempt to do anything more complete cannot do better than to follow—a model which they will do well to copy, if they would combine fulness of material with that admirable order and arrangement which so facilitates reference, and without which a work of this sort is all but useless. To show the minuteness with which Mr. Trübner has gone into the matter, it may be mentioned that he has even dissected and catalogued the volumes of Transactions issued by scientific bodies, giving not only the volumes, but the titles of the papers contained in them. Added to this, he has included the linguistic labours of American missionaries in all parts of the world; and so vast is that task alone, that since the completion of the volume he has collected not less than two hundred additional titles of such publications in Armenian, Burmese, Chinese, Karen, Siamese, Syriac, Tamil, Turkish, and in the aboriginal languages of African tribes and of American Indians. These will have to be included in a second edition. For the introductory chapter on Bibliographical Prolegomena, Mr. Trübner confesses himself to be very much indebted to the late Dr. Ludewig, a very able philologist, whose work on "The Literature of American Aboriginal Literature" was edited by Mr. Trübner after its author's death. This chapter contains a most valuable and interesting account of all bibliographical works known on books relating to America.

To this succeeds a chapter called "Contributions towards a History of American Literature," and which has been furnished by Benjamin Moran, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the American Legation. As the preface states, though brief, it is full of valuable information, the fruit of much original research, presenting altogether the most attractive class of subjects to be found in the book. It is divided into: First Colonial Period, of which such men as George Sandys, who translated Ovid's "Metamorphoses" on the banks of James's River before 1626, and Mrs. Bradstreet, the poetess, whose volume was the first original work published in New England (1640), are the representatives. The Second Colonial Period, to which belonged Franklin, Hubbard, Cadwallader Colden, Callendar, and Thomas Godfrey, who wrote the first finished play produced in America—for under the Puritans there was no drama. To the First American Period many more names belonged, such as James Otis, a forcible political writer; Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the Republic; Washington himself; Joseph Quincy, and many others. The Second American Period brings us down to the present day through a gallery of such literary heroes as Washington Irving, Jared Sparks, Bancroft, Prescott, Ticknor, Mrs. Stowe, Hawthorne, Longfellow, Emerson—who shall tell the number of them?

The chapter on Foreign Writers in America gives an account of such foreign residents as have added to the literature of America. Among these are mentioned the eminent divine, John Witherspoon, who was a lineal descendant of John Knox, and whose "Essay on Money"

was the first note of warning to the Americans against the pernicious system of trusting too much to a paper currency. Alas! his prophecies were the prophecies of Cassandra, as many a ruined bondholder to his mischief too well knows. After him comes Mrs. Susanna Rowson, the novelist, who acquired a literary reputation in England as well as in America, by her "Charlotte Temple." Other notable names on this list are those of Joseph Priestley; Wilson, the author of "American Ornithology;" Albert Gallatin, the Swiss, who was one of the first to investigate the history and languages of the Indian tribes; Dr. Francis Lieber, the projector and editor of the "Encyclopædia Americana;" Dr. Ludewig, whose services to philology have been already referred to; and though last, perhaps the greatest of all, Louis Agassiz, who, after gaining a reputation in his own country, expanded the field both of his labours and his fame by emigrating to America.

We cannot now dwell upon the chapter on Education, in which a brief account is given of the history of the educational movement in America; nor yet upon that which treats of the introduction and progress of printing, full as it is of interesting facts. Each of these subjects would require a separate article for anything like their proper treatment. In the chapter which follows, that which speaks of the remuneration of authors, will be found some facts which will make the mouths of even successful English authors water. So far back as 1817, Goodrich and Sons paid Noah Webster a sum equal to 8,000*l.* for his "Spelling-book." At the present day Messrs. Ivison and Phinny, of New York, pay Sanders, for his educational works, 6,000*l.* per annum, of which 244,000 copies were sold during the first half of 1855. Childs and Peterson, of Philadelphia, have already paid 12,000*l.* to the family of Dr. Kane for his account of his "Arctic Explorations," having made them the very liberal allowance of one dollar per copy sold.

The chapter on "The Book Trade and Its Extent" contains some very remarkable facts. Considering that after the declaration of Independence the whole of the American book-trade was transacted at fairs, it shows some signs of progress to hear that there are more than 400 publishing firms in the States, and that there are 3,000 booksellers, besides 6,000 or 7,000 general dealers, who sell the books published by them. Of Messrs. Harper alone, it has been estimated that they employ 600 persons in their establishment and that their yearly sales amount to 2,000,000 of volumes. The house of J. B. Lippincott and Co. is however said to be the largest book-distributing house, not only in America, but in the world. In the first half of 1855, this house had 10,000 octavo pages put into type, and issued from two to fifteen editions of each work. They have 200 works in stereotype, and sell more than 50,000 Bibles and Prayer-books in the year. They have about 5,000 wholesale customers, and in 1853 the amount of business they transacted was estimated at 400,000*l.* sterling. The appetite of the American public for letters seems truly enormous, and the little effect which all this consumption apparently produces, seems to give countenance to the old adages, that those who bolt their food seldom get fat, and that lean dogs are always the hungriest. The number of copies issued of every popular book is astonishing to those who are accustomed to the moderate figures of English editions. A single Boston house sold 26,500 copies of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's Lectures in a very short space of time; 40,000 copies of "The Lamplighter" were sold within the first two months of its existence; and from first to last 295,000 copies of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" were disposed of. When Fanny Fern (*the nom de plume* of Miss Willis) published her first work, 70,000 copies of it were sold. But the figures respecting educational books are even more astonishing. Messrs. Ivison and Phinny sell half a million of Sanders's Reading-books and 100,000 copies of Thomson's arithmetical works every year. One firm alone, Messrs. A. S. Barnes and Co., of New York, sold 800,000 volumes (mostly school works) in one year, 1853.

English books reprinted in America appear to be equally fortunate with the indigenous productions. Of "Bleak House, which was published by Messrs. Harper simultaneously with the issue in England (under a special arrangement between Mr. Dickens and those publishers), a quarter of a million copies were sold; and of "Jane Eyre," more than one hundred thousand copies have been disposed of. That these issues should be so much greater than those of the original editions in England is very much due, of course, to the cheapness with which books are got up in America; but the fact is, nevertheless, astonishing. The venerable Mr. Goodrich, better known under the *soubriquet* of "Peter Parley," states in the "Recollections of my Life," that the total value of the book sales in the United States in 1856 was 3,200,000*l.*, and that is considered to be a very low estimate. According to the same authority, the proportion of British to American books consumed has varied very much, seeing that in 1820 the American works were thirty per cent., and the British seventy; but that now the British books only bore the proportion of twenty per cent. This only proves that whilst the British production has been comparatively standing still, American literature has been, in effect, created.

We would willingly dwell upon the chapter that treats of Newspapers and Periodicals, perhaps the most interesting of all. We are compelled, however, to hurry on and to content ourselves with a few facts. From the first news-placard, printed at Boston in 1689, and the first American newspaper, published in that city in 1690, to these days when every citizen has his paper, at least there is a prodigious stride. In 1856, not less than one hundred and twenty papers were

published in New York only, with an aggregate circulation of 80,000,000 of copies. This circulation could, however, scarcely keep pace with the facts of the present year; for we are told that a half-penny paper alone, the *New York Ledger*, has, by the sheer force of puffing, achieved the unprecedented circulation of *nine hundred thousand per week*, of itself a circulation of *forty-six million eight hundred thousand copies per annum!* The circulation of individual daily papers in America exceeds anything of the kind that has ever been done in this country, so far, at least, as numbers are concerned. The *Times*, it is believed, never reached a higher circulation than sixty thousand, and that was only at the very height of the Crimean war, when the public thirst for news was in a very abnormal state. The *New York Herald*, however, has a regular circulation of upwards of 70,000 copies daily. But the *Times* in England is indeed an *edax rerum*, so far as the other papers are concerned, for, like Moses's rod, it swallows up all the rest. Not so in America, however; the *New York Times* enjoys a respectable circulation of nearly 50,000, the *Tribune* of over 30,000, and the *Sun* (a halfpenny sheet) sells not less than 50,000. Pretty times for the press these, my masters! And though in some cases the goods may be not unfairly termed "cheap and nasty," we are not surprised to hear that in 1850 the calculation was made that fifteen papers were printed in the year for each man, woman, and child in the States; nor yet are we inclined to dispute the boast of a great but ungrammatical States-man, that "We 'Mericans are the readingest nation as is." Let us be just, however, and admit that some few of the American newspapers, and more of the American periodicals, are quite equal to anything of the kind published in Europe. The Washington *National Intelligencer* is a fair example of the first, and we should be puzzled to find among our own magazines anything of its kind to excel the *Atlantic Monthly*.

After this entertaining history of American Literature, upon which we have been induced to dwell so long, Mr. Trübner's "Guide" gives us an equally tempting treatise on the "Public Libraries of the United States." That, however, is by Mr. Edward Edwards, and forms part of that treatise by him upon the libraries of the world, which we have already in hand for review. To this follows the body of the book, in which about eight thousand titles are classified under heads according to the subjects; such as Bibliography, Theology, History, &c. Of this part nothing can be said but that it is the most complete list yet published, and that it is of immense value as a guide to bibliographer, book-seller, and book-buyer. Of the entire volume, we may safely say that it offers a larger and more detailed view of the present state of American literature than has ever been given before; that its examination cannot fail to astonish even those who imagine that they are acquainted with all that has been accomplished by the energy of this extraordinary people; and that it presents, in fact, to the eye of the thoughtful a grand and beautiful picture of a vast intellectual ocean, somewhat turbid and restless it may be, and noisy in the demonstrations of its vitality, casting up to its surface occasionally objects very loathsome to look upon, and not unfrequently sweeping away in its ignorant strength many a good and holy institution. Yet that ocean has in its gems of unutterable beauty; it laves the shores of islands, maybe few and far between, which are clothed with healthy verdure and decked with all the jewels of nature; more than all, it contains within its waters, even when they seem most impure, that salt and purifying principle that must one day cleanse them utterly—the principle of a vigorous, generous, and liberal humanity. All honour, then, to the literature of Young America—for young she still is, and let her thank her stars for it—and all honour also to Mr. Trübner for taking so much pains to make us acquainted with it!

#### THE BERTRAMS.

*The Bertrams.* A Novel. By ANTHONY TROLLOPE. London: Chapman and Hall. 3 vols. pp. 1010.

THE AUTHOR of "Dr. Thorne" and of "Barchester Towers" could now hardly fail to write a book capable of arresting attention and of standing out from the ruck of mild, mawkish novels which feed the circulating libraries; something bold, original, and vigorous is pretty sure to come from his pen, tinged, it must be admitted, with a little inherited coarseness, but distinguished at the same time for a dramatic power, an incisiveness of style and a knowledge of human nature which has certainly improved in the descent. "The Bertrams" is, in our estimation, certainly Mr. Trollope's best book. If it were purged of certain slips of carelessness we should have little or no fault to find with it. It is all very well to despise accuracy in technical matters, and Mr. Trollope, when he declines to give the text of old Bertram's will, implies a kind of sneer at those critics who are watchful to detect inaccuracies; but we are at a loss to understand why, if technical matters are introduced, they should not be accurately and carefully treated. Surely it adds nothing to our pleasure to be told that Mr. Harcourt is at the Common Law bar, and then to find in the next volume that he is a successful Chancery practitioner. Moreover—we may be slightly hypercritical—but we would respectfully urge it upon Mr. Trollope that it is not only an unusual, but simply an impossible occurrence for a young man to win his way to the head of the bar and become Solicitor-General within the space of five years. These are small matters maybe; but in novels, as in life, small matters make up the sum of happiness, and as there can be no valid reason why the probabilities should not have been studied,

we should have been better pleased had Mr. Trollope taken the trouble to do so.

Having thus stated our complaint against Mr. Trollope, let us now frankly admit how much we have been pleased, and how much moved, by the story he has told us. There is, perhaps, no shrewder test for originality than when it is put to the task of dressing up an old story in a new and attractive guise. What story is older among novelists than that of the two who loved and were parted by their pride, and *She gave herself to the wrong man*, and unhappiness came to all concerned? It is an old, old tale, as old as pride is, as old as passion is, and it will last as long as both of these endure; yet this is the tale which Mr. Trollope has set himself to tell, and excellently well has he told it.

George Bertram is a very fine hero for a story; but not the sort of hero, mind you, which you are used to meet with in the novel-world. He is a stout, strong fellow, with a fine intellect and a bold heart; but he has no ambrosial whiskers, nor basilisk eyes, and his nose may have been snub for all that the novelist cares to tell you. The beauty is, where only beauty is important, in the woman, in beautiful Caroline Waddington, whom George loves with his great, manly love, but even to whom he will not cringe and grovel. This Caroline is a very proud young lady indeed; womanly enough when the heart's core is reached, but outside a very Juno. That is her vocation in life, to act the Juno. She is beautiful, and she knows it; her flatterers have told her so, and if they had not, her glass would. So she and George do not get on very well together; for he is just as proud as she is, and has an unhappy, mistaken way of thinking that the man should be the master. She will hold the reins when he would be driving; she will advise him for his good when he contends that he is the best judge on that score himself; she will have the marriage three years hence, whilst he wants it over at once; she will have him to London, whilst his sweet will carries him to Paris. And yet, even then, all might have been well; for George has an uncle, a millionaire, who is also the grandfather of Caroline, and the old man would see them wedded; but presently there comes between them a wily, slippery fellow, a prosperous fellow too, Sir Henry Harcourt, a college-fellow and friend of George's, but now a thriving lawyer, Solicitor-General, and a great politician. This diplomatic gentleman comes in, and with considerable art contrives to widen the breach which these two proud, headstrong lovers have made between their own hearts, and the upshot is, that Caroline Waddington becomes Lady Harcourt. The scene in which the crowning quarrel takes place between George and Caroline is so superior to the common run of lovers' quarrels in novels, and so capital a specimen of Mr. Trollope's style, that we shall quote the most material part of it:

"Caroline," he said, stretching out his hand to her—usually when he met her after any absence he had used his hand to draw her nearer to him with more warmth than his present ordinary greetings showed—"Caroline, I have come down to have some talk with you. There is that between us which should be settled. "Well, what is it?" she said, with the slightest possible smile. "I will not, if I can help it, say any word to show that I am angry."—"But are you angry, George? If so, had you not better show it? Concealment will never sit well on you."—"I hope not; nor will I conceal anything willingly. It is because I so greatly dislike concealment that I am here."—"You could not conceal anything if you tried, George. It is useless for you to say that you will not show that you are angry. You are angry, and you do show it. What is it? I hope my present sin is not a very grievous one. By your banishing poor aunt out of the drawing-room, I fear it must be rather bad."—"I was dining with Mr. Harcourt last night, and it escaped him in conversation that you had shown to him the letter which I wrote to you from Paris. Was it so, Caroline? Did you show him that very letter?" Certainly, no indifferent listener would have said that there was any tone of anger in Bertram's voice; and yet there was that in it which made Miss Waddington feel that the room was swimming round and round her. She turned ruby red up to her hair. Bertram had never before seen her blush like that; for he had never before seen her covered by shame. Oh! how she had repented showing that letter! How her soul had grieved over it from the very moment that it had passed out of her hand! She had done so in the hotness of her passion. He had written to her sharp stinging words which had maddened her. Up to that moment she had never known how sharp, how stinging, how bitter words might be. The world had hitherto been so soft to her! She was there told that she was unfeminine, unladylike! And then, he that was sitting by her was so smooth, so sympathising, so anxious to please her! In her anger and her sympathy she had shown it; and from that day to this she had repented in the roughness of sackcloth and the bitterness of ashes. It was possible that Caroline Waddington should so sin against a woman's sense of propriety; that, alas! had been proved; but it was impossible that she should so sin and not know that she had sinned, not feel the shame of it. She did stand before him red with shame; but at the first moment she made no answer. It was in her heart to kneel at his feet, to kneel in the spirit if not in the body, and ask his pardon; but hitherto she had asked pardon of no human being. There was an effort in the doing of it which she could not at once get over. Had his eyes looked tenderly on her for a moment, had one soft tone fallen from his lips, she would have done it. Down she would have gone and implored his pardon. And who that had once loved had ever asked aught in vain from George Bertram? Ah, that she had done so! How well they might have loved each other! What joy there might have been! But there was nothing tender in his eye, no tender tone softened the words which fell from his mouth. "What!" he said, and in spite of his promise, his voice had never before sounded so stern—"what! show that letter to another man; show that letter to Mr. Harcourt! Is that true, Caroline?" . . . "Yes, George; it is true. I did show your letter to Mr. Harcourt." So stern had he been in his bearing that she could not condescend even to a word of apology. He had hitherto remained standing; but on hearing this he flung himself into a chair and buried his face in his hands. Even then she might have been softened, and he might have relented, and all might have been well! "I was very unhappy, George," she said; "that letter had made me very unhappy, and I hardly knew where to turn for relief."—"What!" he said, jumping up and flashing before her in a storm of passion to which his former sternness had been as nothing—"what! my letter made you so unhappy that you were obliged to go to Mr. Harcourt for relief? You appealed for sympathy from me to him! from me who am, no, who was, your

affianced husband! Had you no idea of the sort of bond that existed between you and me? Did you not know that there were matters in which you could not look for sympathy to such as him without being false, nay, almost worse than false? Have you ever thought what it is to be the one loved object of a man's heart, and to have accepted that love?" She had been on the point of interrupting him, but the softness of these last words interrupted her for a moment. "Such a letter as that! Do you remember that letter, Caroline?"

So they are parted, and only come together again after Sir Henry Harcourt, maddened at the disappointment of his life, at the blight of his ambition and the loss of her love, dies by his own hand and blows out his crafty brains, and after the millionaire uncle, who had so hoped to see them united, was in the grave and could make no will in their favour. The scene in which George tells the old man that the marriage is impossible seems also to us a very fine piece of dramatic writing:

"George," said the old man, "I have been thinking much since you went away the other day about you and Caroline. I have taken it into my stupid old head to wish that you two should be married."—"Ah, sir?"—"Now listen to me. I do wish it, and what you have said has disturbed me. Now I do believe this of you, that you are an honest lad; and, though you are so fond of your own way, I don't think you'd wish to grieve me if you could help it."—"Not if I could help it, sir; not if I could help it, certainly."—"You can help it. Now listen to me. An old man has no right to have his fancies unless he chooses to pay for them. I know that well enough. I don't want to ask you why you have quarrelled with Caroline. It's about money, very likely?"—"No, sir, no; not in the least."—"Well, I don't want to inquire. A small limited income is very likely to lead to misunderstandings. You have, at any rate, been honest and true to me. You are not a bit like your father." . . . "I'll tell you what, George, I should like to see you comfortable; and if you and Caroline are married before next October, I'll give you—"—"I can't tell you how you pain me, sir."—"I'll give you—" I wonder how much income you think you'll want?"—"None, sir; none. As our marriage is out of the question, we shall want no income. As I am, and am likely, to remain unmarried, my present income is sufficient for me."—"I'll give you—let me see." And the old miser—for though capable of generosity to a great extent, as he had certainly shown with reference to his nephew's early years, he certainly was a miser—the old miser again recapitulated to himself all that he had already done, and tried to calculate at what smallest figure, at what lowest amount of ready money to be paid down, he could purchase the object which he now desired. "I'll give you four thousand pounds on the day you are married. There, that will be ten thousand, beside your own income, and whatever your profession will bring you."—"What am I to say, sir? I know how generous you are; but this is not an affair of money."—"What is it, then?"—"We should not be happy together."—"Not happy together! You shall be happy, I tell you; you will be happy if you have enough to live on." . . . "George," said he, "after all, you and Caroline are the nearest relatives I have; the nearest and the dearest."—"Caroline is your own child's child, sir."—"She is but a girl; and it would all go to some spandrifit, whose very name would be different. And, I don't know, but I think I like you better than her. Look here now. According to my present will, nine-tenths of my property will go to build a hospital that shall bear my name. You'll not repeat that to anybody, will you?"—"No, sir, I will not."—"If you'll do as I would have you about this marriage, I'll make a new will, and you and your children shall have—. I'll let you say yourself how much you shall have; there—and you shall see the will yourself before the wedding takes place."—"What can I say to him? what can I say to him?" said George, turning away his face. "Sir, it is quite impossible. Is not that enough? Money has nothing to do with it; can have nothing to do with it."—"You don't think I'd deceive you, do you, and make another will afterwards? It shall be a deed of gift if you like, or a settlement—to take effect, of course, after my death." On hearing this George turned away his face. "You shall have half, George; there, by G—, you shall have half; settled on you—there—half of it, settled on you." And then only did the uncle drop his nephew's hand. He dropped it, and, closing his eyes, began to meditate on the tremendous sacrifice he had made. There was something terrible in this to young Bertram. He had almost ceased to think of himself in watching his uncle's struggles. It was dreadful to see how terribly anxious the old man was, and more dreadful still to witness the nature of the thoughts which were running through his mind. He was making lavish tenders of his heaven, his god, his blessings; he was offering to part with his paradise, seeing that nature would soon imperatively demand that he should part with it. But useless as it must soon be to him, he could not bring himself to believe that it was not still all-powerful with others. "Mr. Bertram, it is clearly necessary that we should understand each other," said George, with a voice that he intended should be firm, but which, in truth, was stern as well as firm. "I thought it right to come and tell you that this match was broken off. But, seeing that that has once been told, there is no longer room for further conversation on the matter. We have made up our minds to part; and, having done so, I can assure you that money can have no effect upon our resolution."—"Then you want it all—all!" said the uncle, almost weeping. "Not all, nor ten times all, would move me one inch—not one inch," said George, in a voice that was now loud, and almost angry. Mr. Bertram turned towards the table, and buried his face in his hands. He did not understand it. He did not know whence came all this opposition. He could not conceive what was the motive power which caused his nephew thus to thwart and throw him over, standing forward as he did with thousands and tens of thousands in his hand. But he knew that his request was refused, and he felt himself degraded and powerless. "Do not be angry, with me, uncle," said the nephew. "Go your own way, sir; go your own way," said the uncle. "I have done with you. I had thought—but never mind—" and he rang the bell violently. "Sarah, I will go to bed—are my things ready? Woman, is my room ready, I say?" And then he had himself led off, and George saw him no more that night.

We could quote many scenes to the full as well written and limned with as masterly a hand as this. What needs it? Those who care for such will read the whole book.

One capital excellence in Mr. Trollope is, that he draws his characters more like real men and women than is usual with modern novelists; by this we mean that they are never wholly one thing or another. Not even his villain is wholly bad; and his hero and heroine are as full of faults as any average child of Adam. The character of old Bertram is thoroughly natural; and, with its mixture of avarice and generosity, presents a truer picture of the genuine miser than any we have ever met with in fiction; for your true miser will save a candle-end and give away ten thousand pounds. Of the leading figures we have already

spoken, but the minor ones are not sketched with less skill. Spendthrift and easy Sir Lionel Bertram, careful Pritchett, Miss Baker, Miss Todd, and the rest are all well drawn. There is a sort of second story about a very mild and good young rector and his sweetheart, which, whilst it satisfies the presumed dramatic necessity for an underplot, does not materially aid the progress of the story. Of this nothing need be said; nor anything more about the book, but that it is in our estimation one of those *rarissime ares* among books—a good novel.

*On Chloroform and other Anesthetics, their Action and Administration.* By JOHN SNOW, M.D., Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians. Edited, with a Memoir of the Author, by BENJAMIN W. RICHARDSON, M.D., Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians. pp. 443. (Churchill.)—In this posthumous work, the last sentence of which was written a week before the author's death in June, 1858, Dr. Snow has lucidly embodied all the knowledge of anaesthetics which he had derived from a very extensive practice, fructified by great natural sagacity and by strictly scientific methods of experiment and induction. The book will be eminently useful in two ways—first, in indicating to professional readers the precautions to be observed in the administration of volatile narcotics; and, secondly, in dissipating false prejudices with regard to these agents, and inspiring the public with a rational confidence in their utility and safety under skilful management. As for their utility, it is of wider range than is commonly supposed, for in many instances they have not merely an anodyne, but a directly curative action, and in others the pain allayed by them is not only a present evil removed but a danger averted. "I early arrived at the conclusion," says Dr. Snow, "that this agent [chloroform], when carefully administered, causes less disturbance of the heart and circulation than does severe pain." Hence he "never declined to give it to a patient requiring a surgical operation, whatever might be his condition;" and, having acted on this principle for several years, he found no reason to depart from it. Many volatile substances are capable of causing insensibility when inhaled, but only three have been extensively used in medical practice. These are sulphuric ether, chloroform, and amyrene. The first is the safest of the three, insomuch that our author believes it to be "almost impossible that a death from this agent can occur in the hands of a medical man who is applying it with ordinary intelligence and attention," and that it is altogether incapable of causing sudden death by paralysis of the heart, an accident which has happened repeatedly from the inhalation of chloroform. Furthermore, he states that only two deaths have been recorded as occurring under the administration of ether, and in neither case is it probable the ether was the cause of the fatality. Unfortunately, this safe anesthetic has a disagreeable odour and pungency, and cannot be employed with so much facility as either chloroform or amyrene; it has therefore fallen into disuse in this country, for the same reason that phosphorus matches have superseded the tinder-box, an occasional risk not being allowed to outweigh a great advantage in point of ready applicability. The illustration is Dr. Snow's; and from the time when chloroform was introduced into medical practice in November, 1847, he adhered to it almost exclusively. Out of more than 4,000 patients to whom he administered it, only one appears to have died under his hands, and in this case a *post mortem* examination showed that death was not attributable to the direct effects of the inhalation, but to organic disease, which had so damaged the structure of the heart that its action was liable to cease suddenly from slight causes. It is most important to note the means by which Dr. Snow was enabled to render thus innocuous the use of an agent whose fatal power has been manifested in at least fifty well-authenticated cases. He never used chloroform, or any other volatile narcotic, empirically or apportioned the dose by guess-work, as is done, for instance, when chloroform is inhaled from a handkerchief. He began with all such substances by an accurate investigation of their physical properties, especially with a view to ascertain the quantity of vapour of each which a given bulk of air would take up and retain at various temperatures. Next he studied their physiological effects by experiment upon different animals, in order to determine the amount of vapour by the absorption of which the various degrees of narcotism were produced. Then he administered the vapour in excess, both by giving a large dose rapidly and a small dose for a long period; and, when death ensued, he observed whether it had occurred through paralysis of the heart or of the respiratory muscles. From the data thus obtained he deduced the rule that air impregnated with about four per cent. of chloroform vapour is most suitable for producing insensibility to surgical operations; and that in medical and obstetrical cases the vapour should be inhaled in a more diluted form. Accordingly he contrived an apparatus in which he could graduate the mixture of air and vapour with sufficient accuracy; and this was the inhaler which he constantly used and which goes by his name. None other claims confidence by so high a warrant. Amyrene possesses certain advantages as an anesthetic in the great ease with which it can be breathed, owing to its entire want of pungency, in its power to suppress pain without inducing coma, and in the great infrequency with which it excites sickness. Dr. Snow began to administer it in 1856, but discontinued its use after the loss by it of two patients, one in the 144th case, the other in the 238th. It was his intention to resume it, had he lived, in a mode which would have secured entire immunity from danger. Having traced the cause of death in both the instances mentioned to the great uncertainty of the boiling point in different specimens of amyrene, he proposed to obviate this source of danger by administering the amyrene from a bag or balloon into which so much of the liquid should be put as would make fifteen per cent. of vapour when the bag was filled up with air. Inhalation by this method would be absolutely safe, provided the right quantity were put into the bag.

*The Duchess of Orleans. A Memoir.* Translated from the French. By Mrs. AUSTIN. pp. xlii. 92. (W. Jeffs.)—Madame d'Harcourt's "Memoir of the Duchesse d'Orléans" has been so recently reviewed at length in these columns that we should have excused ourselves from doing more than merely mentioning the publication of an English version of it were it not that the accomplished lady who has undertaken and admirably well-

executed the task of translation had not prefixed forty pages of original preface to the work. Mrs. Austin evidently entertains a strong affection and respect for the memory of the strong-minded lady whose career is the subject of the book. She says that she was persuaded into undertaking the translation by her "devoted attachment to the illustrious lady of whose life and character it is a faithful record." The only thing she appears to regret is that the eagerness of public curiosity to know something about the Duchess has prevented her from writing a book of her own of which She (with a capital S) was the subject. After a very high eulogium upon the character of the Duchess, in which all the virtues that can adorn humanity are claimed for her, and her mind and intellectual superiority are highly lauded, Mrs. Austin enters into a detailed defence of the character which she so much admired. According to this, we cannot help thinking, too partial eulogist, the Duchess was not ambitious; and it was only her love and admiration for France that made her assert the claims of her son, and nothing but the natural impulse of a German heart to do good that caused her to accept the hand of Louis-Philippe's son. "Surely," says Mrs. Austin, "we need not resort to so morbid a motive as selfish ambition, for an explanation of her ready and resolute acceptance of the proposal made to her to become the wife of the Prince Royal." Abating somewhat on the score of that power of illusion which contact with great people seems invariably to exercise—a power which even caused Dr. Johnson to regard George III. with superstitious veneration—we are not inclined to say that Mrs. Austin's estimate of her friend is very much exaggerated. A brave, constant, noble-minded, but perhaps not altogether unambitious woman, Helen of Orleans most certainly was, and we are not surprised that so high an appreciation of her merits should survive in the memories of those who were brought into personal relations with her. Mrs. Austin herself seems to have enjoyed almost her intimacy; for she frequently consulted her upon the books to be used by her children, and especially on the education of her son:

The last conversation I had with her—a fortnight before her death—turned entirely on the means by which the Prince her son could become thoroughly acquainted with English institutions, and with the political habits (if I may use the word) which pervade English society. She was far too clear-sighted and judicious to imagine that institutions or habits can be copied, and too well informed to think that a servile imitation of those of England would be desirable, even if it were possible. But she wished him to know what is the process by which young men are fitted to become the active citizens of a free country. It was most affecting to watch the working of her transparent mind, and its faithful index, her countenance, during this conversation; and one shrank, as from a sort of cruelty, from dwelling upon any of the things which Englishmen are wont to point out with pride to foreigners. It seemed as if her heart grudged to England those points of political superiority which she was too clear-sighted not to perceive. Where she admitted them, it was with a sigh, and a look of uttermost regret. Whatever was good she coveted for France.

To those who cannot read Mme. d'Harcourt's volume in the original language, Mrs. Austin's translation will be very welcome, and even those who can, will find novel and pleasant matter in the preface of the editress.

*An Index of Dates: Comprehending the Principal Facts in the Chronology and History of the World, from the Earliest to the Present Time. Alphabetically arranged.* By J. WILLOUGHBY ROSSE. Vol. II. pp. 461. (Bohn.)—This volume completes Mr. Rosse's useful alphabetical index to Mr. Bohn's excellent enlarged edition of Blair's "Chronological Tables," and together these works afford the best means of historical reference that has been offered to the student. As we have already explained, when the former volume was published, the plan of the work is to arrange all leading names and facts alphabetically, and to give the year to which they belong. A reference to Blair's "Tables" will then furnish the reader with the entire collection of circumstances by which the matter searched for was surrounded. Having tested this volume we must congratulate Mr. Rosse upon the conscientious care with which he has executed his difficult and laborious task.

We have also received Nos. XI. XII. XIII. XIV. of *A Comprehensive History of India, Civil, Military, and Social* (Blackie).—*Statistical Report of Cases of Insanity treated in Abington Abbey, Northamptonshire.* By Thomas Prichard, M.D. No. III. (Northampton: Cordeux).—*Beautés de la Poésie Anglaise.* Par le Chevalier de Chatelain. (Pickering).—A prospectus of a series of translated "Beauties" of English poetry by this indefatigable translator. Judging from the specimens given, we have one piece of advice to offer the Chevalier, and that is—to avoid attempting to translate Burns.—*Congregational Singing speedily improved, by a short and simple Method* (Houlston and Wright).—Recommends practice in the singing part of the service, in order to get the congregation into habit of singing together, and to avoid that straggling mode of singing now so obnoxious to correct ears.—*Speech of the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P., on the Financial Resources of India.* (Smith, Elder, and Co.)—A reprint of that excellent and statesmanlike speech on India delivered in the House of Commons on the 13th of February last, in which the heir to the house of Derby proved himself worthy of his name and of the high position to which at the age of thirty-three years he has been raised.—*The Woman's Question and the Man's Answer.* By B. A. W. (Saunders and Otley).—A pamphlet in favour of altering the law upon the vexed and vexatious question of marriage with the deceased wife's sister.—*Composition and Elocution.* By Samuel Neil. (Houlston and Wright).—The third edition of a very useful book, and the fact of a third edition is alone sufficient to prove its popularity.—*The Army and its Medico-Sanitary Relations.* (Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox).—A reprint of three papers in the *Edinburgh Journal*, which appeared in the form of reviews of the Report of the Army Sanitary Commission.—*What Should the Representation Be?* By J. W. Wilkins. (Ridgway.)

*A POLYGLOT STATE.*—The Secretary of State of Wisconsin informs the Legislature that of the amount of money expended for public printing during the past three years, about 27,000 dollars was for English, 30,000 dollars for German, and 14,000 dollars for Norwegian languages.

*PHILOSOPHY IN COOKERY.*—By the hydrostatic paper at a late examination, the candidates were required to explain the reason for putting a cup into a fruit pie. One of them stated the law very correctly, but recollecting the point at which the column of water became equal to the column of air, added—"But the cup must not be more than thirty feet high."

## FOREIGN LITERATURE.

## THE CRITIC IN PARIS.

**R**EADING MADE EASY was the aim of a generation not yet quite passed away; travelling made pleasant, employing reading as an auxiliary to that end, is the aim of the generation which now is. Surely the amount and the variety of the literature, suited to all means and all capacities, to be found at almost every railway station, ought to be accepted as a proof that we live in at least a reading generation. What is true of England is true also of France, though not, perhaps, to the same degree. It is chiefly at the metropolitan stations where we see the tempting array of books of all colours and prices—the grave and gay, the philosophy of Cousin and the wit of Figaro. The same literary display is more rare in the provinces; at intermediate stations between large towns it can scarcely be said to exist. On leaving the metropolis, especially for a long journey, the traveller for the most part considers a book, a pamphlet, or a newspaper, as necessary as the spirit flask or parcel of sandwiches. He regulates in either case quantity or bulk by distance. Railway travel in France is generally tedious, and the country travelled through is often distressingly monotonous. The book kills time, and amuses or furnishes the head. Among those who may be regarded as the friends of the traveller, honourable mention must be made of the house of Hachette and Co. There are publishers who may deserve equally well of the public; but it is the speciality (as the French say) of the Messrs. Hachette—their "Bibliothèque des Chemins de Fer"—that has induced us to mention their name. Their *eighteens* in buff covers, some at a franc, some at two francs, are just of the handy size for the pocket of the traveller; and as to subject, he cannot well make a bad selection if he chooses with his eyes shut, as the names of the most popular authors of France guarantee their quality. We have perused lately several volumes, the most recent of this collection, but limit ourselves at present to giving account of but one, and as that one is by a lady—"Mos de Lavène—Scènes et Souvenirs du Bas Languedoc,"—by Mme. Louis Figuier. This is a simple love tale told without mawkishness; such a book as *Materfamilias* may trust her darling girls with, without fear of giving them romantic notions. The real heroine of the story is not the pretty intelligent Noélie, who falls in love with the young village doctor, who loves her fondly in return, but in the staid, matronly *Mos de Lavène*, who suffers patiently, and ultimately become victim of her devotion for her son's welfare. *Mos* is a title of respect given to married women of the peasantry of the better class in the south of France; "madame" is never applied to the wife of a peasant. All the affection of *Mos de Lavène* is centred in her only son Marcel, who, when the tale opens, has just returned from Montpellier, where he has taken his degree of doctor. He returns on the eve of the village *fête* to surprise his family, but receives a greater, and a painful surprise himself when he is introduced by his father, *Maitre de Lavène*, to Mlle. Nina, the daughter of a village notary, whom he has selected to be his future wife. Nina is rich, but hoydenish, and does not recommend herself to the tastes of a cultivated young man. *Maitre de Lavène* is a stern man, one of strong will, determined always to exact obedience in his household. He believes that he has been acting in his son's interests, and expects, of course, that he will marry Nina. The distress of the son is great, and so is that of the mother on account of her son. To intensify the affliction of both, Marcel has fallen in love with Noélie, the pretty daughter of Mme. de Presle, the châtelaine of St. Loup, who, because the young man is of low degree, forbids his visits to the château, where he had attended her as physician. *Maitre de Lavène* comes to learn of this, and his wrath against his son is unbounded. It is now that the mother comes to play her noble and devoted part. To secure her son's happiness the match with Nina must be broken off, and the hand of Noélie secured for him. She is the crouching vassal of her husband, and must proceed with caution. On a stormy night she steals out, and travels over a dreary country to the house of the notary. She implores him to break off the contract between his daughter and her son, and shows him that the union would be the unhappiness of both. Her motherly eloquence succeeds, and she returns with a letter to her husband relieving him from his engagement. Her success with Mme. de Presle is not so immediate. She cannot deny the good qualities of Marcel, but then there is the obstacle of birth. At last she consents that Noélie shall be Marcel's provided he succeeds in obtaining a chair in medicine, then vacant at Montpellier. The young man accepts the trial of love. He departs for Montpellier to undergo the necessary examinations. His father refuses him the slightest pecuniary assistance. His mother's silver *clavier* (what, we believe, young ladies call a *châtelaine*) and her little gold crucifix, which she slips into his hand at parting, constitute all his visible worldly wealth. The young man goes resolutely to work, but his means are soon dried up. He runs the risk of dying of hunger. *Mos*, without knowing his real condition, believes that he must be greatly straitened, and so she asks leave of her own husband to glean, like the poor, olives in his gardens. He grants her request without knowing her design. She gleans the whole day, carries her olives to the mill, and waits her turn till mid-

night. At length she returns to him with oil equal in value to fifty francs. She next obtains her husband's consent to visit their son at Montpellier; but he reluctantly grants her the use of his favourite ass, *Gris*, to carry her. Next midnight she departs, with her orphan niece Rose, for the distant city. They take a load of vine faggots and other matters to sell on the way for their maintenance. The night is wintry, stormy, and the two women experience all its rigours. Montpellier is reached, but Marcel is not to be found. She has forgotten his address, and is almost yielding to despair. Accident brings her into the apartment of her son, where she finds him in a state of unconsciousness in the arms of a stranger. With the aid of Rose the young man was recovered. He had been starving. When sufficiently recovered, she learns of her son his position, and how it is necessary that his *thesis* should be in the hands of the printer the following day, the last day allowed by the faculty. The price of printing would be three hundred francs. Three hundred francs! Where was such a sum to be raised in such short time? And how? She resolved on making sacrifice of *Gris*, not fearing her husband's anger. Poor, honest *Gris*, was surely worth three hundred francs, she reasoned. With a sad heart she takes *Gris* to market, but the sum she demands for the animal amuse the dealers. Three hundred! Not two hundred, nor one hundred, nor fifty francs, can she get for the beast. She parts with it at length for twenty francs to a washerwoman, who begins to bang his hide as soon as she becomes his owner. Two hundred francs are still wanting to make up the sum demanded by the printer. Again, what is to be done as time presses? She makes the final sacrifice. She succeeds in hiring herself to a cultivator of silkworms, and receives her wages in advance from a kind-hearted man. The manuscript is sent to the printer's, and son and mother attend. But the latter has suffered so much from cold, anxiety, and fatigue, that she is struck down with fever. In short she is dying, but full of hope in her son's success. We draw the tale to its close. Death was stealing upon poor *Mos*, when Noélie entered the young doctor's room to announce him the successful candidate. Joy was mingled with grief. Even harsh *Maitre de Lavène*, who had arrived to receive his wife's adieu, shed tears. It needs scarcely be added that Marcel and Noélie were united. Up and down Mme. Figuier's little tale are scattered many pleasing pictures of rural life in Bas Languedoc, and the whole may be read with pleasure in first or third class carriage.

M. Henri de Pène, who, it will be recollect, was almost fatally wounded in a duel last May, has published in the *Librairie Nouvelle*, a volume which he entitles "Paris Intime," formed from the most piquant and elegant columns which were supplied by the pen of the chronicler during three years. They may be regarded as the petty annals of a certain portion of French society, and for more than one reason are likely to be extensively read. In his preface he refers gracefully to the affair of the duel. "On Friday, the 14th May, between a quarter and half-past three, six men entered with arms the Forest of Vésinet. At four o'clock, one of them was stretched on the ground. He was no more a living man, nor was he a dead man. Such weather was it this day as made a man not regret life, if in it he loved only the sun. The sky was grey, the rain descended, the earth was ugly." The writer describes his sensations as he lay wounded: "In certain parts life gave way with a strange rapidity. Thus it seemed that breathing was about to fail. Speech was gone. Thought on the contrary was present, keen, excited. It galloped as when a man is exalted with champagne, like a watch wherein the balance is broken. The hearing received the slightest sounds, the whispered words, the rustle of the leaves, with a sort of fury as if to prove to itself of what it was still capable."

Genealogy, as a branch of history, is the earnest study of but a very few. The great body of plebeians take but little interest in the "pride of heraldry." It cannot, however, be denied that genealogy is of vast service to the historian, and such writers as Paillot, Menestrier, Sicille, Sesgoing, and Father Anselme, with our own Dugdales, Douglasses, Egertons, Burkes, Nicholases, and others, have all conferred their obligations upon society. During the last sixteen years M. Borel d'Hauterive has published each year a volume entitled, "Annuaire de la Noblesse de France." The work has been received with favour. The "Annuaire" for 1859 was impatiently expected, and now we have it. The new law on titles will explain this anxiety, as tradesmen and others in a country where there are so many counts and marquises, will generally be able to distinguish the false from the real Jeremiah. Under the title "Législation Nobiliare," the author traces the complete and analytical history of names and titles, as well as the different decrees and laws rendered since 1789.

M. Louis Beaufils has published a volume of novels under the title, "Les Secrets du Hasard," which he divides into two parts. The first give narratives which appear to discuss the maxim, "L'homme s'agit et Dieu le mène." The second part is intended to illustrate a more correct maxim, as we think, "Aide-toi, le ciel t'aidera"—Heaven helps those who help themselves.

## THE DRAMA, ART, MUSIC, SCIENCE, &amp;c.

## THE DRAMA.

THE Haymarket Theatre has, since our last, furnished three new dramas, two new reappearances, and a retirement, thus pretty well monopolising the theatrical news of the week.

On Saturday Miss Amy Sedgwick took her benefit, and her leave for six weeks; and, on the occasion performed a new part in a new play concocted especially for her by Mr. Palgrave Simpson. It is entitled, "The World and the Stage," and aspires to settle the question as to the assumed contest that rages between the real and the mimic world. We are not exactly inclined to take the dramatist's assumption for granted; and it seems to us that a popular actress is by no means an urgent case for sympathy. As far as we can perceive such artists lead a very jolly life, dress to the uttermost possibility of female desire, have as many gorgeous changes as Queen Elizabeth herself, not even being confined to one fine new robe a day, like that English Semiramis, but frequently sporting three splendid ones in the course of two brief hours. Taking into consideration how the other arts and professions are remunerated, they certainly are well paid; and if there may be the slightest taint on the fine ermine they wear, it is hardly possible but it should be so, where so many, if not actually careless of reputation, are careless of appearances. A thoroughly respectable actress however, and we could mention many, suffers no more from slander than any other woman. That she is the wronged, magnanimous, high art, poetical creature Mr. Simpson has chosen to depict her, we must, as far as our experience goes, deny. That she is successful but lonely, confident but fragile delicate; that she has a superior disregard of coquetry, and is more likely to resist the arts and snares of the opposite sex than the lady of rank, buried in the bosom of her family, we cannot allow. Yet such is the meaning of the present drama, if it mean anything beyond offering a popular actress a good many opportunities of exalting herself, and uttering a series of speaking bravuras in praise of self and art, which all audiences, and especially benefit ones, are sure to respond to vehemently.

In furtherance of our remarks, we give an outline of the story. Two sisters of a good family are left nearly destitute. The one goes independently on to the stage; the other seeks matrimony, and establishes herself as a baronet's lady. This separates them completely, the husband forbidding all intercourse with the stage heroine. We find the Actress successful, rich, and self-denying. Her table is covered with billets, her floor strewed with bouquets, her hall filled with presents, and her boudoir with admirers. She disregards all, and loves only art and a handsome amateur artist of fortune. Good, indeed great, as she is, her lot is misery. Her lover fears and is jealous of her many suitors, and some of her unexplained conduct, and leaves her for a time. Nor, indeed, can a cold-blooded critic blame him, for he finds a letter of the actress, inviting a profligate man of fashion to a *tête-à-tête* with her, and he overhears what seems a declaration of love, and a reception of it. The Baronet, who is represented as the very incarnation of conventional prejudice, thinks badly of a lady where he finds such company, and where he has good reason to suppose his wife has been concealed. Thus the World turns upon her, and even her own maid, who cannot make her out. One person is, however, true, and that is a comic countryman who follows her as a voluntary servant, and who, though amazingly ignorant, as it would seem by his gestures, of the art of attack or self-defence, is for knocking everybody down who comes near the peerless but not fallen angel. The World-persecuted actress, involves herself in all these suspicious positions to save the lady of rank (her sister) who has been involved in a compromising correspondence with the aforesaid Honourable profligate, whom she invites, and wheedles to get back her sister's letters. For this the harsh World, seeing only the actions and not knowing the motives, condemns her, whilst it shields and adores the lady of rank, and for the very same reasons. But is the poor World to be blamed, and can it judge from anything but

appearances? Is it to blame an apparently immaculate woman, and is it to spare an apparently guilty one? The dramatist would insinuate it is to have an unbounded faith in art, and a watchful suspicion of conventional virtue. In the *dénouement* the noble and virtuous conduct of the *artiste* is made apparent; and then the cruel World does ample justice for the mistake it has made. Even the stiff baronet is penitent for his mistaken notions; and a severe vengeance is taken on a stiff-necked, middle-aged lady, by inveigling her into an elopement, wherein she supposes she was to perform the chief part, but finds out it was intended for the baronet's lady. We cannot think this complicated three-act drama will have any observable effect on the unkind World, or that it will be the one whit more inclined to remove the conventional barriers with which society surrounds female delicacy when it has seen it. For a long time it was thought infamous for a woman to appear on a public stage; and it was not until the time of the worthy monarch Charles II. that it was permitted in England. This was a stern prejudice; and doubtless the English stage has since produced women who have worthily adorned the peerage, and have elevated their calling to an art. But notwithstanding English society has happily no *demi-monde*, no bloody revolution, no infamous court, has broken down the barriers that separate the doubtful from the immaculate, the spotted from the pure. The domestic circle is sacred with us. Nor is that circle a bigoted one; it accepts kindly and cordially those who come recommended by genius and with clean bills of health; but it very properly refuses to receive uninquiringly every saucy girl who may abandon an honest calling to flutter in the mock glories of the stage. We should go too far into the matter to uncover a system which threatens to undermine, and finally destroy, the *prestige* of the stage, more than any of what this dramatist is pleased to consider the prejudice of society; and that is, the opening the door, for pecuniary reasons, to a class of female aspirants who pay to have an opportunity of parading themselves. This is also a wrong to art, as the hard-working conscientious actress is frequently superseded by some ignorant and mis-conducted person who continues to thrust herself by indirect means before the public. Here exists a deteriorating influence which will do more to utterly ruin the stage as the arena of an art, than all the prejudices of all the baronets in England; and it is one against which artists and society should equally protest.

On Monday evening Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews made their reappearance for a season, which is to last till Easter, when Miss Sedgwick and the new comedy are to return. Mr. Charles Mathews adapted an old Parisian piece for his wife to appear in, entitled "The King's Milliner, or the Royal Salute." The three acts are principally occupied with the troubles this *artiste* gets into from her numerous profligate admirers, and her marriage into a high family, an intrusion resented as a crime in the days of Louis Quinze. The rich milliner is doubtfully caressed by the men of rank, and openly persecuted by the ladies of the court. She is imprisoned by a *lettre de cachet*, but is set free by the gallantry of another lover; and, finding proofs that the lady of rank who has persecuted her has herself been guilty in early life of *mésalliance*, she procures an admission into the noble family by promising eternal silence on the subject. The piece is extremely flimsy, resting entirely on the interest that may be attached to the principal character, and the humours depicted by Mr. Charles Mathews as an idle fellow of fashion, by Mr. Chippendale as an old debauchee, and Mr. Clarke as a stupid rich *bourgeois*. It has many fine dresses, a complicated intrigue, and some vehement assertions of democratic rights, especially of female claims as regards marrying into high families; but though apparently successful, it will not become very popular, nor is Mrs. Mathews a sufficient actress to sustain an entire piece.

A little one act "Box and Cox" sort of piece followed, in which Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews performed the only two characters. The female, who is rather too fast for our stage, pawns the gentleman's coat, and he returns the compliment by pawning her only gown, so she runs about in

her petticoat, and they mutually quarrel for the want of three pence to make up the requisite amount to redeem their respective garments, until some chance settles their pecuniary difficulty, and from becoming enemies they proceed to the extreme of marriage. The subject is not a very happy one, the genteeler part of the audience ignoring pawning as a vulgar, and in this case, dishonest mode of raising money; and the matter being with the less well-to-do part of the audience a serious matter. The vivacity of the performers got an occasional laugh. The piece had been better adapted previously by Mr. Wm. Brough under the title of "Round the Corner."

At the Lyceum, a one-act piece, called "Ladies' Law," enables Mrs. Barney Williams to assume five characters, or rather five dress-parts. The only real bit of character is that of an American Down-East girl, which Mrs. Williams gives with evident gusto and real knowledge. The rest are the stage dummies, and it must be confessed audiences are getting tired of this class of entertainment, which is but a refined sort of pantomimic personation.

We have seen Mr. Buchanan Kean, but cannot report favourably of his tragic powers. He is of the school of Gustavus Brooke, mouths a good deal, is portentously long in his pauses, and elaborates his ideas of the emotions, in some instances, to an absurd length. We have no hopes of him as a great actor.—Miss Agnes Kemble has the fine figure, intelligent countenance, and confident style of the clever family she belongs to; but we perceive no symptoms or possibility of greatness in her.

## ART AND ARTISTS.

## TALK OF THE STUDIOS.

THE "Christus Consolator" of the late Ary Scheffer, sold at the sale of the Duchess of Orleans, for the sum of 60,000 francs—2,400<sup>l</sup>. The purchaser of the picture was M. Fodor, a Dutch gentleman.

The forty-fourth anniversary dinner of the Artists General Benevolent Institution will take place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, 16th of April, when Viscount Hardinge will preside.

A distinct entrance to the new temporary gallery of British pictures at Brompton has been ordered to be made by the trustees of the National Gallery, and the collection, it is important to know, will be preserved from intermixture or connection with the heterogeneous jumble of the Education Museum.

On going into the Messrs. Foster's sale-rooms on Tuesday morning, we were struck with an impression that we had seen the first three pictures that met our eyes elsewhere. And so it was; two large incompetent landscapes we had seen sold at Messrs. Jones and Bonham's about fourteen days ago; and the third—a Mrs. Siddons, by Opie (?)—a week back a Messrs. Christie and Manson's. Is not this a fine exposition of how these sales are concocted?

Our readers will receive ample compensation, as we did, by going down to Messrs. Christie and Manson's—not by going into the "large room," but stopping in the hall, and looking at two Reynolds's there hanging. He has seldom, if ever, produced finer works; certainly no work of his, with regard to colour, remains fresher, or rather, we should say, less operated on by time, than the larger one. We shall be sorry to find it pass into private hands, and would earnestly urge our readers to go and see it and its companion, as two admirable examples of one of our very greatest masters.

Mr. Gregory has given notice of a motion for a committee on the reorganisation of the British Museum, which, we suppose, means the dispersement and separation of its collections. We mistake if the opportunity is not taken to make that inquiry into the expenditure of the vote for education, science, and art, which Mr. Disraeli last year avowed was required; and as Mr. Spooner cannot now ask in respect of the Department of Art, "What is the use of this expenditure, and where is it to stop?" a Whig, who has before led anti-German hosts to victory, Lord Elcho, the art-loving member, will ask the house to probe the expenditure of 76,000<sup>l</sup>. annually by the Department of Art.

Jacob Bell, Esq., with praiseworthy liberality, has lent the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution, of which he is the president, his collection of pictures, containing probably some of the very best specimens of modern English masters. Among the gems of art in it may be mentioned the "Maid and the Magpie," "Shoeing," "The Sleeping Bloodhound," "Alexander and Diogenes," and several more, by Sir Edwin Landseer; "The Horse Fair," by Rosa

Bonheur; "The Derby Day," by Frith; and a host of other celebrated works, by F. K. Leslie, R.A.; T. S. Cooper, A.R.A.; E. M. Ward, R.A.; A. Egg, A.R.A.; G. B. O'Neil; A. Elmore, R.A.; the late W. Collins, A.R.A.; Frank Stone, A.R.A.; C. R. Leslie, R.A., &c. The collection will be on view from Tuesday, March 28th, till Saturday, April 9th, inclusive; and the proceeds will be devoted to the funds of the institution.

We have been requested to call and see at Messrs. Reeves and Sons, 113, Cheapside, a portrait of Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford. The picture is stated to be quite unknown to the public, and it was purchased many years back at Bushy Park, being the property of the Duke of Clarence. Judging from contemporaneous portraits of "Black Tom," it requires no great stretch of recollection to believe this picture to be a "counterfeit presentment" of that unprincipled and unfortunate statesman. With regard to its being a genuine Vandyke, we have shrewd doubts. We believe it to be an exceedingly clever copy—most probably (as was the frequent custom) a *replica* made in Vandyke's studio, not improbably under the master's own eye; but no portion of the picture indicates the slightest evidence of the fervour of mind or power of hand in unerringly grasping individuality of expression or generalisation of form, which so largely characterised the great Fleming; yet the picture is a very creditable production.

Messrs. Christie and Manson's large room is now filled with a large mass of incongruous pictures which are to be put up for the competition of buyers on Friday the 18th of March, Saturday the 19th, and Monday the 21st. The sixty-two lots for Friday are a grim display of "speculative pictures"; whereof good names are attached in a way that excites our wonder, though not our admiration; of the thirty-nine pictures lately belonging to C. A. Kurederer, Esq., which are to be sold first on Saturday, we have no hesitation in stating our belief that not more than thirty-eight are disentitled to the names they bear. Of the 145 pictures, however, which are to be offered after the above thirty-nine are disposed of, many are, doubtless, the works of the masters whose names are attached, but in no case, with one exception, are they fine examples of the artists' capabilities. The exception we wish to draw especial attention to, is Lot 97, Hanneman—portraits of himself, wife, and family. This is unquestionably the best of this artist's productions, we know; though that this is not saying much, for after all he was but an imitator of Vandyke and Dobson. The turmoil of pictures in Monday's sale must eventually subside into Princes-street.

At the sale at Messrs. Christie and Manson's of the select portion of the collection of Mr. Leveden Pryse, M.P., noticed by anticipation in our last impression, the following prices were realised for the principal lots. Lots 48 and 49, Jean Baptiste Pale (Scholar of Watteau)—A *fête champêtre*, and the companion picture—85*l.* Lot 90, Jan Steen—The "Return of the Wedding Party"—85*l.* Lot 94, Rubens—Portrait of Helena Forman—101*g.* Lot 103, Murillo—"Jacob Placing the Branches in the Well"—55*g.* Lot 104, Andrea del Sarto—"La Carita"—125*g.* Lot 105, Salvator Rosa—"Il Viaggio di Rachele"—240*g.* Lot 106, Boccaccini Boccacio—The Virgin, attended by two angels, appearing to St. Dominic—101*g.* Lots 111, 112, Luca Penni—"Venus Bathing," with the engraving by G. Ghisi (Manutano), and the companion picture, "Endymion carrying Venus on his Shoulders," and the engraving by Ghisi—245*g.* Lot 125, J. Ryysdael—A landscape—170*g.* Lot 133, L. Backhuysen—A sea piece—91*g.* Lot 134, W. Mieris—"The Holy Family"—155*g.* Lot 135, Greuze—"Head of a Child"—50*g.* Lot 136, J. Vernet—"An Italian Seaport"—100*g.* Lot 137, C. Dolce—"St. Cecilia Seated at a Harpsichord"—80*g.* Lot 138, C. Poelemberg—A brilliant landscape—61*g.* Lot 171, N. Berghem—Italian landscape—73*g.* Lot 172, Canaletti—A view of the Canal at Venice—275*g.* The collection realised upwards of 4,550*g.*

On Tuesday we had made up our minds to an evening's enjoyment, resulting from an invitation to a *soirée*, issued by the Associated Architects, *à propos* the opening of their new exhibition rooms in Conduit-street; but on our arrival two formidable obstructions presented themselves—heat and crinoline; so much so, that a calm contemplation of the works around and on the walls was quite out of the question. When we arrived the chairman, Earl de Grey, was delivering an address, enunciating his views upon the advantages that must arise from the formation of such a society, and in his peroration availed himself of the opportunity, in a quiet species of humorous satire to level some pungent and pertinent observations upon the inconvenient and tasteless manner in which, at the present time, the ladies were determined to give themselves the appearance of that most ungainly and unpicturesque of architectural forms, namely, the pyramid. This was much enjoyed by the gentlemen, though not so much by those for whom the lesson was intended. After the noble chairman, the hon. treasurer, Mr. Arthur Ashpitel, F.S.A., and F.R.A.S., addressed the company *ex officio*, and facetiously informed them that for once in his life he was subjected to a "new sensation," which new sensation he defined as arising from the fact, that for the first time since the formation of the

society he had funds in hand. Then arose Mr. Digby Wyatt, who in a neat speech moved a vote of thanks to the noble chairman, which was carried by acclamation, and for which he returned suitable thanks. We then vainly endeavoured to revolve round several stars of the first magnitude in the way of crinoline, "and the more we tried, the more we tried in vain." We did, however, manage at last to view Mr. Owen Jones's drawings for the Muswell Hill People's Palace, and more abortive attempts at anything like beauty of design or taste in elevation we have seldom witnessed; and we came away with a hope for the downfall of crinoline and the success of the Architectural Exhibition.

The twins of old Father Time's glass bring about some most surprising incidents. Who would have thought that the speculations of the scheming smart clerk Robson on the Crystal Palace Company would have led indirectly to the enrichment of our National Gallery, and securing to this country an unequalled work by one of the best living foreign painters? The man to whom the temper whispered

The world is not thy friend, nor the world's law,

Then be not poor, but break it,  
and was listened to, not only wrote tolerable plays, but had a taste for art of no mean order. He had purchased from Dyckman's, of Antwerp, a work generally known as a surpassing example of that painter; and at the sale of Robson's art effects at Christie's it was purchased for 960*l.* by the late Miss Jane Clark, of Regent-street, who by her will has bequeathed it to the National Gallery. It is a small panel picture of an old blind beggar with a little girl. He leans against the shadowed wall of a church, and submissively raises his fine venerable face and white locks to the light of heaven, his hat in hand, whilst the other arm leans on the little girl, who stands out wholly in the light. A doorway of the church, and figures appear in the half-light of the distance. This simple subject is painted in the finest emulation of Rembrandt's chiaroscuro, but the light on the two figures is more intense, and the streams of white light more glaring than in Rembrandt. The touch and finish is surprising, and can only be compared in its mastery and texture to G. Dow. The colour is as peculiarly modern and French as the effect is Rembrandtish; the draperies exhibit this most in their pleasing yet strange half-tones. But though our painters will value this specimen of Belgian art, its effective feeling will strike a chord of sympathy with its subject in every breast.

A correspondent, referring to a recent paragraph about the three pictures recently acquired for the National Portrait Gallery, supplies the following particulars as their history: "They are accurately stated in the paragraph to have belonged to the late Mr. Wingfield Baker. They were sold by auction at his house in Eaton-square a few weeks since. In the auctioneer's catalogue they are all attributed to Zuccero, and are described as portraits of King James I., Queen Anne of Denmark, and the first Marquis of Winchester; and they were sold to Mr. Graves, of Pall-mall, for the respective prices of 20, 30, and 18 guineas. Before the sale a catalogue was sent to the Secretary of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery, but no person appears to have attended the sale on their behalf. I am informed that the prices at which they were sold, were considered satisfactory by the sellers, and were fully equal to a valuation which had been made of them by an eminent valuer of works of art. We are now informed that the same pictures have been resold to the public at the prices of 250, 300, and 100 guineas. The increase of price from 68 to 650 guineas for the three pictures is somewhat startling. No less remarkable is the confidence with which we are told that a picture which, rightly or wrongly, has passed for a considerable time as a likeness of Anne of Denmark, is an undoubted portrait of the celebrated Mary, Countess of Pembroke, 'Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother.' When we consider the previous history of this picture, and that its former owners still believe it to be the work of another painter and to represent a different subject, the assumption of certainty with which its new names are announced is, to say the least, somewhat bold: 'This painting, we are told, is by Mark Garaud, and is not only quite authentic, but no similar portrait of the beautiful Countess is known to exist.' Any one reading this would suppose that the picture came direct from Wilton, or from Penshurst, and had always been received as a portrait of the celebrated Countess. This picture has inscribed on it the date 1614, with the remarkable motto, 'No spring till now.' I do not know whether this motto has furnished any clue to the identification of the subject of the picture with the distinguished person it is now supposed to represent. If so, it will be extremely interesting to learn how the connection is shown. The Countess of Pembroke is said to have been married in 1574; her son William, Earl of Pembroke, was born in 1580; and her husband died in 1600. The biographical dictionaries, copying as usual the errors of each other, assert that the Countess died at 'an advanced age in 1601.' The statement of Anthony Wood is more to be depended upon, 'Having lived to a very fair age, she died in her house in Adlersgate-street, in London, the 25th of September, 1621.'

Another picture of the early period of Italian has just been hung in the hall of the National Gallery, behind the statue of Wilkie. It is the last of the pictures selected from the Lombardi-Baldi collection, and, as an object of study, is not the least curious of that interesting series, chiefly from its showing little or no marks of the restoration which a few of the others, and especially the large altar-piece of Orsogna, underwent in Italy. This merit—and in a picture of such great age it is a rare one—arises from the work and its original frame with panels having been brought to England in its decayed state, and, under the guidance of the director of the Gallery, restored with consummate knowledge and zeal by Mr. Henry Merritt. No portion of the picture has been re-painted, as is commonly done. The real material of the old work has been revived, and made to throw out its former tints with the same harmony of its original colouring, with no shadows obliterated, no outline blurred nor drawing marred by clumsy weakness. Even the burnished gold ground has been religiously preserved, and presents a contrast to the bright gilded leaf look of other pictures which would point a salutary moral to those who do not enough respect the incomparable works of the old painters. The frame, too, in the Byzantine-Gothic style, with its arched panels and quaint pinnacles, and a very free and neat tracery ornament of foliage in relief on the flat portions, is not renewed beyond the limits of its first design, and is an essential portion of the work. It is an entire small altar-piece of Greek-Florentine art, and is dissimilar in design and feeling to the other examples of the *quattro-centisti* period in the national collection. The body of the work is divided into two panels, containing two saints in each, most vigorous and thoroughly mediæval in conception and costume; the countenances are wrinkled and contorted to the extreme degree of saintly anxiety, and every vein and muscle is swelling and twisting with exaggeration, whilst each limb, particularly the legs, though drawn and modelled with a seeming aping of nature, is bent into postures decidedly rickety and inelegant. Yet the frightened air of one face, and the austerity, simplicity, and calmness of the others, is remarkably interesting and pleasing. It is not Jouvenet surpassing Guido, nor Haydon overshadowing Michael Angelo; but an old simpleton of a painter depicting the beings of his time as holy warrior-angels and beatified ecclesiastics, and using all his invention and best means to do it well. The left panel has the two best figures—St. Michael and St. John the Baptist, nervous, moving little men—the drawing made forcible with careful shadowing, and the colour positive and strong, yet in the softest harmony; a mitred personage and female saint, whose symbols are not appended, fill the corresponding panel. Immediately over the arch of this last is the gem of the work, a small circle containing the Virgin at prayers, of faultless refinement in its grace, simplicity, and even brilliant colour, though only a few inches in diameter. There are some dozen other panels, having a saint in each, filling the sides of the frame, well deserving study.

*Le Mémorial Diplomatique* has a review of the British Institution, by a M. Ch. Terrien. This gentleman, who seems very little to understand what he pretends to criticise, is very great upon M. East-Lake and Cruikshank. He declares that London possesses three "colour-boxes," viz., "the Royal Academy of Painting in Trafalgar-square, to which must be added the National and Vernon Gallery; the South Kensington Museum, and the British Institution." Of course, it would be asking too much of him to know anything about the Old and New Water-Colour Exhibitions—awkward facts which the upholders of the French school are very fond of ignoring—since he is of opinion that Gavarni is superior to Landseer, and that the proper way of quoting Voltaire's famous test line for English pronunciation is—

*Thou thrush thy thomb through thirty thousands thorns.*

#### MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

"RENDER unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's" is an injunction that mankind generally would do well to ponder over and keep in remembrance. Eight years have glided away since the new Philharmonic Society started into existence. Its birth was a necessity, as its parent had become very slow in its paces, and was in other respects too senile for the purposes and demands of a fresher age. The New Philharmonic set out with a well-devised course of policy, and pursued it without halting. On Monday this society inaugurated their new season by reproducing the mighty work which they had been the means of making popular. Beethoven's symphony in D minor (No. 9), or, as it is more familiarly called, the "choral" symphony, was originally composed for the Old Philharmonic Society, who set but little store by it. They occasionally ventilated it with a rehearsal, and an unsuccessful public performance on so limited a scale, that its existence was more a matter of report than recognition to ninety-nine hundredths of the profession itself. What wonder, then, that many who certainly ought to have known better, should have pronounced it "an unintelligible and rambling work, the offspring of a morbid and decayed intellect."

The fault thus committed ought not, perhaps, to be charged more to the prejudices of the initiated than to those whose business it was to give the work a fair representation, and allow the world to sit in judgment on its merits. This was precisely the method pursued by the New Philharmonic, when under the conductorship of M. Berlioz. The eccentric but highly gifted Frenchman subjected the band to rehearsals in proportion to the magnitude of the difficulties to be encountered and overcome. No band and conductor ever achieved a more glorious triumph than in the masterly and complete performance of an elaborate and highly coloured production. This was the starting point to success of a work destined for all time. The seeming "chaos of perplexities" is now reduced to something like order, and when executed in the presence of a medley audience of amateurs, musicians, or individuals with no claim to be called either—as on the occasion in question—it is listened to with a mute astonishment and a fervid delight. The solos were sustained by Mme. Anna Bishop, Miss Stabbach, Mr. Wilby Cooper, and Mr. Santley. "Welcome yo" and "Sweet content" were not exactly what they ought to have been. In fact, the solos throughout were not remarkable either for correctness of reading, or nicety of intonation; they are difficult, it is admitted, but not insuperably so. The chorus "did their bidding fealty," and sang with a vigour that nothing could abate. The entire performance of this colossal work occupied one hour and ten minutes. Another trait in the first part of the concert was Mendelssohn's wonderful piece of music painting, "Fingal's Cave." This overture is one of the three concert overtures dedicated to the Crown Prince of Prussia. It is not so much known as "The calm sea and prosperous voyage," or "The Midsummer Night's Dream;" but by many it is considered in many respects superior. An attentive listener may imagine he hears "the roar of the distant Orcades," or the low murmur of the waves among the pillars of the mermaid-haunted palace of the sea, full of the impetuosity of the Atlantic and the freshness of the brine. In the second part a concerto of Mendelssohn's, for violin and orchestra, introduced that extraordinary artist M. Wieniawski, who at every fresh hearing creates a new astonishment. With the blessed help of a good memory this highly gifted violinist played for nearly forty minutes, with but trifling intermissions. The impression produced was deep and genuine, and the applause that greeted him at the conclusion of his arduous task perfectly deafening and quite unanimous. Mme. Anna Bishop's recitative, and aria, "Non mi dir," from "Don Giovanni," was not effective. Miss Stabbach's choice, "Lo, the star of evening" (Weber), met with a better reception, although placed a long way down the programme. The artful duties of conductor devolved on Dr. Wyld, through whose exertions mainly the society was instituted, and to whom much of its success is justly to be traced. We gather from a published address that there will be a slight deviation in future from the plan originally propounded. Novelty is not to be neglected; but it will be sought for in the choral works of Cherubini, the Litany and Sinfonia concertante of Mozart, and other interesting works, produced for the first time in England at these concerts. "Excelsior, excelsior," is the society's motto; and though fully aware how impossible it is to reach the goal of perfection, no exertion will be spared in the attempt.

A second performance of "Solomon" was given on Friday, the 11th instant, at Exeter Hall, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, with the same cast of principals as that of the fortnight previous, viz., Mesdames Catherine Hayes, Weiss, Miss Dolby, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Thomas. Haydn's highly descriptive cantata, "The Seasons," which was originally set down for this evening, and afterwards supplanted by Handel's fanciful and, to some extent, dramatic oratorio—will be produced on the next occasion. This highly coloured and richly draped picture has not as yet found that favour in the eyes of the musical public to which its intrinsic merits entitle it. Whether this is chargeable to any defect in representation, is a matter which M. Costa's phalanx of 700 performers who bow so willingly to his fiat, intend to determine on the 25th instant.

So steadily have the Winter Concerts at the Crystal Palace been growing into popularity, that the time has arrived for extending the area appropriated for this musical service. On the 12th instant the programme was sufficiently attractive to bring together a very numerous body of listeners. The soloists for the occasion were Miss Arabella Goddard, Miss Malah Horner, and Mr. J. Watson. Miss Goddard selected a concerto in G minor by Dussek, which was heard for the first time at Sydenham Palace. It is generally admitted that the works of Dussek are not quite free from reproach in a scientific point of view, although he was a great favourite with the last generation of pianoforte players. His concertos appear to be but feebly instrumented with regard to accompaniments; they abound, nevertheless, with passages of the most delicious and charming character, of which proofs abundant were given by the highly accomplished exponent who on this occasion introduced him. Beethoven's sinfonia in C was another instrumental feature. This composition belongs almost wholly to his earlier style. Except

in the minuetto, which itself scarcely departs from the limits of the old movement of Haydn and Mozart, there are few indications of that striking individuality which distinguishes his later works, and to which he owes the title of the most original composer of his time. Much of the symphony might have been written by Haydn, and as much by Mozart, although there is none of the elaborate playfulness of the one, nor the passionate feeling of the other. It is, nevertheless, a work of decided genius, clear in construction and masterly in detail; and, as marking a period in the gradual development of Beethoven's talent, must ever be heard with interest by those who acknowledge the immense influence which his instrumental works have exercised on the progress of the art. The overtures to Dr. Sterndale Bennett's "May Queen" and Cherubini's "Elise" were given for the first time. The execution of all these was highly effective, and the reception of them, one of warmth and welcome. Miss Malah Horner was the only vocal contributor, and Mr. Watson left a favourable impression respecting his advance in the art of violin-playing, *solo*.

Mr. Brinley Richards, one of the most eminent professors of the pianoforte, resumed his annual series of concerts on Tuesday evening at the Hanover-square Rooms, in the presence of a highly fashionable auditory. Very few musicians of his standing are more patronised by the nobility than Mr. Brinley Richards; an argument in favour of the progress of classical chamber music, a branch of the art which he has cultivated in a pre-eminent degree. Mr. Richards issued an excellent programme, in which were included Beethoven's sonata in C minor for pianoforte and violin, and a grand sonata, "Plus Ultra," by Dussek. Mr. Blagrove assisted in the former; in the latter, Mr. Richards was the sole executant, and displayed to advantage that admirable talent to which he is indebted for the high position he enjoys. The concert was agreeably varied by the vocal efforts of Mrs. Enderssohn and Miss Lascelles. M. Berger officiated as conductor.

The Vocal Association gave their third "undress concert" of the season on Tuesday evening, at St. James's Hall. As on the previous similar occasions, all the vocal music was performed by members of the association exclusively. A public ordeal of this kind has many advantages attached; the various executants know what they have to do, and they prepare accordingly. But in the best-intentioned system, the spirit of evil will effect an entrance. The programme of Tuesday was a very lengthy one, and overdone also with solos, nearly all of which were failures. Dr. Calcott's "Friend of the brave" was attempted by a gentleman utterly devoid of the vocal capabilities such a fine song demands. Exquisite Italian music in the hands of comparatively inexperienced amateurs is, to say the least of it, a dangerous trust and a questionable policy. The part-songs came off with more *éclat*; one by Hatton, for male voices, "Jack Frost," was famously sung, and won the suffrage of almost every listener; its repetition was unavoidable. A song with a burthen, "Beautiful May," by Macfarren, was also redemand, although the general merit of performance was somewhat equivocal. We are perfectly aware of the difficulty that besets the constructor of a programme; there is frequently too much yielding to the wishes of young aspirants who are the least competent to judge of the suitability of their choice—who forget, in fact, that they should sing to amuse and edify an audience, rather than to gratify their individual whims. At the next dress concert, which takes place on the 23rd inst., Handel's "Acis and Galatea," and the "Ave Maria," from Mendelssohn's "Loreley," with a strong cast of principals, will be performed.

Mr. Harrison took his announced benefit on Monday at the Royal Italian Opera House, and was as usual admirably supported. Despite what has been written *pro et con* with reference to Flotow's music, Mr. Harrison ventured upon "Martha," and the result determined the wisdom of his choice. Miss Louisa Pyne appeals to her great friend, the public, on Saturday, and relies on the "Crown Diamonds" as the most suitable piece to close her managerial career with for the present season.

Two great works were submitted on Wednesday evening at St. Martin's Hall—Beethoven's Mass in C, and Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang, or Hymn of Praise." Both compositions are tolerably well known, but each additional hearing develops new beauties and new profundities of thought. The very long and elaborate symphonic introduction which precedes, or rather forms, the first part of the "Hymn of Praise," is a masterpiece of instrumental writing. It is well known that the idea of applying the symphony to the purposes of sacred music originated with Beethoven; and a considerable resemblance may be traced between his choral symphony and the "Lobgesang" of his illustrious follower. It was composed for a festival in honour of Gutenberg, the inventor of printing, and was first executed at Leipzig. Since then it has been gradually making way, and its merits are now universally acknowledged. The outline of the "Lobgesang," though strongly resembling the choral symphony, differs in one particular—Beethoven expends his resources chiefly on the instrumental portion, while Mendelssohn reserves himself to give a

more adequate expression to the concluding burst of praise. The first movement is an allegro maestoso, founded on a Lutheran chorale, and is followed by an allegretto agitato in G minor, representing the conflict between man's hopes and fears, his painful despondency, and heaven-inspired faith. An adagio religioso, describing a state of calm and peaceful repose, leads to a magnificent strain of thanks-giving, for which all the preceding has been merely a preparation. The hymn itself consists of passages of Scripture, arranged as solos, duets, and choruses; the most remarkable of which are—aduet for female voices, "I waited for the Lord"; solo, "The sorrows of Death;" the chorus, "The night is departing;" and the chorale, "Let all men praise the Lord;" the latter especially affords a wonderful proof of the fineness of imagination, the splendour and massiveness of conception, and the high devotional feeling of the composer. The artistes engaged for the interpretation of these works were the Misses Banks, Martin, Bradshaw (*a débutante*), Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Wilby Cooper, and Mr. Thomas. Mr. Reeves was absent, for the excellent reason that in a singing sense he was utterly voiceless; fortunately an excellent substitute was on the spot, and Mr. Wilby Cooper was accepted with a generous welcome. The principals acquitted themselves meritoriously; the chorus appeared less certain at the points than could have been wished, but as an entire performance of Beethoven and Mendelssohn, it gave general satisfaction to an auditory who appeared, not only to relish the entertainment afforded, but who were sensible to the charms which are so thickly scattered through the pages of these wondrous German *maestri*. Mr. Hullah conducted with his usual ability.

#### MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

A NUMBER of gentlemen, friends and admirers of Mr. Benjamin Webster, have organised a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, for Wednesday next, for the purpose of congratulating him upon the completion of the new Adelphi Theatre. The Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley, M.P., will preside, and a subscription has been opened for the purpose of presenting Mr. Webster with a testimonial in commemoration of the occasion.

The *Leeds Mercury* says: "It is probable that Mme. Goldschmidt and her husband will visit Leeds in the autumn of the present year, and give their services gratuitously at a grand concert in aid of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution."

On Monday night an influential meeting was held in St. George's Hall, Bradford, to organise steps for an intended triennial musical festival next autumn, in aid of the funds of the Bradford Infirmary. The mayor was in the chair. Resolutions affirming the desirability of holding such a festival were carried, and an influential committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements to insure a successful meeting.

The *Leeds Mercury* states that the choristers of the parish church intend, with the members of the Leeds Festival Choral Society, to present a testimonial to the Rev. Dr. Hook, for the encouragement he has given to church and sacred music in Leeds, by originating and maintaining the choral service at the parish church.

On Tuesday evening the members of the Festival Choral Society of Liverpool gave their sixty-fourth public performance, at St. George's Hall, to a highly respectable and numerous auditory. The first portion of the programme comprised Handel's much-admired serenata "Acis and Galatea," the solo parts in which were sustained by Miss Whitham, Mr. J. W. Morgan, M. Napoleon Nono, and Mr. E. Cuzner. The second part of the performance introduced the music in "Macbeth," and selections from Sir H. R. Bishop's choruses, besides songs, duets, &c.

A correspondent of the *Morning Post* states that the musical event of the week has been the production of Félicien David's new opera, "Herculanum." From the account given, it is rather a *spectacle* than an opera, being more remarkable for the magnificent scenery, dresses, and other accessories, than for the novelty or quality of its music. The same correspondent hints at a report that "Mr. Lumley will be found again at his old post next season," and asks whether it is "possible" we are to have "three Italian operas open in London at the same time?"

On Saturday last a party consisting of some of the most influential inhabitants of Liverpool met at the establishment of Mr. Mayer, of Lord-street, for the purpose of presenting Mr. John Vandenhoff with a testimonial of their esteem and regard, and to commemorate his retirement from the stage. The testimonial consisted of a very beautiful candelabrum, bearing an appropriate inscription. The Mayor of Liverpool, Mr. John Smith, of the *Liverpool Mercury*, Mr. Rawlins, Mr. John Aikin, and others were present, and spoke upon the occasion, and Mr. Vandenhoff expressed, in a very feeling manner, his appreciation of the high honour which had been paid him. The chair occupied by the Mayor was the one in which Burns sat when he composed the "Cottar's Saturday Night," and on the table were the original manuscripts of the notorious forgeries by Ireland of the "Shakspere Plays," along with a volume of auto-

graph letters of Garrick, Kemble, Mrs. Siddons, and other celebrated actors and actresses.

On Monday evening the fourth concert of the Halifax Glee and Madrigal Society took place at the Odd Fellows' Hall, Halifax, conducted by Mr. R. S. Burton, of Leeds. The performances gave great satisfaction. Miss Armstrong and Miss Newbound sang in the duets, "I heard a voice," and "Orpheus with his lute." Miss Armstrong gave "Kathleen Mavourneen," "There is no home like my own home," "Home, sweet home," and "John Anderson, my jo." Miss Newbound gave "Ever of thee," "There is a name," and "Bonnie Dundee."

The young English cantatrice who is winning such golden opinions in Italy, is Miss Whitty, the daughter of Mr. Whitty, the proprietor of the *Liverpool Journal*, and the sister of Mr. E. M. Whitty, the author of "The Stranger in Parliament," a series of able parliamentary sketches, which once attracted notice in the columns of the *Leader*, and of certain sketches of English statesmen, which were received with great favour both at home and abroad.

On Wednesday evening, the 9th inst., Mr. Atherstone read the Third and Fourth books of his unpublished poem of "Israel in Egypt," at the Marylebone Literary Institution in Edwards-street, Portman-square; the subject-matter of the Third being derived from the 10th, 11th, and 12th verses of the 7th chapter of Exodus, and that of the Fourth from the 20th, 21st, and 22nd verses of the same chapter, consequently taking for his text, in the earlier portion of the reading, the miracle of Aaron's rod; and for the last, the transformation of the water into blood. It may easily be understood that there were many passages in both by which his audience were spell-bound; as not only the genius, but also the deep scriptural lore of the author of "Nineveh," and that wonderful prose-poem, "The Handwriting on the Wall," peculiarly fitted him for the difficult and sublime task which had evidently been to him a labour of love. It was a grand idea of Mr. Atherstone, and one certainly not overstepping the privileges either of the Christian or the poet, to represent the great archfiend as the agent by whom "the heart of Pharaoh was hardened;" while the yearnings of the misguided king towards the truth, silenced by Satan through the influence of the magicians, were finely imagined and portrayed. The vision of Moses, when he is instructed by God to bring the blood plague upon all the waters of Egypt, was singularly impressive; and the effects of that visitation upon the people was both graphic and thrilling. We do not regret having been present at the first reading of the course, although the second was full and satisfactory in itself. No scriptural facts were distorted, no doubtful speculations were hazarded; and we, with many others, were indebted to the acknowledged talent and energies of Mr. Atherstone for an hour of intellectual enjoyment of which we shall long retain a most pleasurable and gratifying recollection.

Mr. E. T. Smith has issued the programme of his coming campaign of Italian Opera at Drury-lane Theatre, and we must confess that the doings at this house bid fair to run those of the more pretentious and expensive rival at Covent Garden very hard indeed. The orchestra, which contains some well-known names, the pick of the late orchestra of Her Majesty's Theatre, will be under the direction of M. Benedict. The repertory will contain, "La Favorita," "Il Trovatore," "Linda di Chamouni," "La Sonnambula," "Ernani," "Lucrezia Borgia," "Don Pasquale," "Il Barbieri di Siviglia," "Gli Ugonotti," "Lucia di Lammermoor," "La Traviata," "I Puritani," "Otello," "Don Giovanni," "Norma," "Rigoletto." In addition to which, during the present season, of the following nine operas, five (at least) will be produced, viz., Verdi's "Macbeth," for the first time in this country; Mercadante's "Giuramento," lately performed at Paris; Rossini's "Guiglamo Tell;" Flotow's "Martha;" Rossini's "La Gazza L'Idra;" Mozart's "Nozze di Figaro;" Gluck's "Armida;" Verdi's "Les Vépres Siciliennes;" and, should time permit, Petrella's new and successful opera of "Ione;" Ossia, "L'Ultimo Giorno di Pompei;" with new and extensive scenery and decorations. The engagements for the present season are the following: Mlle. Enrichetta Wieser (prima donna of the Teatro Regio, Turin, La Pergola, Florence, &c. (her first appearance), Mlle. Sarolta, (prima donna from the Impérial Opéra, Paris, her first appearance), Mlle. Elvira Brambilla (from the principal theatres of Milan, Turin, &c., her first appearance), Mlle. Vaneri (who made her *début* at this theatre last season), Mme. Giuseppina Lemarie (prima donna contralto of the Carlo Felice, Genoa, her first appearance), Mlle. Guarducci (from the principal Italian theatres, her first appearance), Mlle. Dele'anese, Mlle. Sordelli, and Mlle. Titien (of Her Majesty's Theatre). Negotiations are also pending with *artistes* of great celebrity, including Mme. Borghi-Mamo (of the Grand Opera, Paris), Signor Giuglini (from Her Majesty's Theatre), Signor Ludovico Graziani (first tenor of the Théâtre Impérial Italien, Paris, and principal theatres in Italy, his first appearance), Signor Mercuriali (of Her Majesty's Theatre), Signor Corsi (of the Italian Opera, Paris), and Signor Pietro Mongini (from the Imperial Opera, St. Petersburg, and principal theatres in Italy, his first appearance),

Signor Badiali (of the Italian Opera, Paris, the favourite of last season), Signor Enrico Fagotti (of the Scala, Milan, and Ducal Theatre, Parma, his first appearance), Signor Castelli (of Her Majesty's Theatre), Signor Marini (late of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden, St. Petersburg, &c.), and Signor Graziani (late of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden).

The programme of the arrangements for the Handel Commemoration Festival at the Crystal Palace in 1859 has been published. As at the festival of 1857, these performances will take place in the central transept of the Crystal Palace, which forms a music hall 360 feet long by 216 feet wide, and containing an area of 77,760 square feet, exclusive of several tier galleries. The number of performers in the choruses will this time fall little short of 4,000. To accommodate this extra force the orchestra will be enlarged to the full width of the transept, viz., 216 feet, with a central depth from front to back of about 100 feet. Its extent will be more clearly appreciated when it is stated that its width is exactly double the diameter of the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, or, that it possesses a larger area than the combined orchestras of Westminster Abbey (as arranged for the commemoration of 1828), York Minster (as at the festival of 1828), the Birmingham Town Hall, the Leeds Town Hall, St. George's Hall, Bradford, the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, and some other smaller orchestras.

In addition to this certain contrivances will be adopted for aiding and increasing the acoustical condition of the Palace, and enabling the solo singers to make themselves clearly heard to the remotest limits of the audience. From the opportunities of practice which the members of the chorus, and especially of the metropolitan section of it, have enjoyed since 1857, it is expected that the skill and ensemble displayed in the coming festival will far exceed the last. As for the selection of the music, the committee say that they would have gladly put forward such of the oratorios or other works of the great master as would, in the present day, possess some novelty; but daily experience shows that the public are unwilling to relinquish works with the detailed merits of which they are familiar, from repeated hearing, in favour of others less tried, and therefore comparatively less appreciated. The object must be not so much to perform new works as to impart a fresh interest to the old ones by executing them on the grandest scale and in the most perfect manner. No English musical festival can be considered complete without a performance of "Messiah." It is peculiarly the oratorio of the English people. This work has, therefore, been selected for the opening day. "Israel in Egypt" created such a sensation at the last festival that no question can arise as to its repetition in 1859. One day only can, therefore, be set apart on which any novelty can be produced, and for this a miscellaneous collection of pieces has been determined upon, including the "Dettingen Te Deum," and selections from the oratorios of "Saul," "Samson," "Belshazzar," and "Judas Maccabeus." In order, however, to give an idea of the universality of Handel's genius, the wind bands after each day's performance will execute in the grounds, marches, minuets, and other of Handel's compositions, including "Water Music" and "Firework Music," and other celebrated pieces; and during the intermediate days, selections from his Italian operas and secular works will be performed by the band of the company. By this arrangement, together with the daily organ performances, ample opportunities will be afforded during the entire week for most interesting and diversified selections from Handel's music. The dates of each performance will be as follow: Monday, June 20, "Messiah;" Wednesday, June 22, "Dettingen Te Deum," selections from "Saul," "Samson," "Belshazzar," "Judas Maccabeus," and other works; Friday, June 24, "Israel in Egypt." With regard to the price of tickets, the directors announce that, with every desire to place the festival within the reach of those whose means preclude high payment, it has been found impossible to fix the rate for special accommodation lower than on the former occasion; but arrangements will be made for the issue of unrestricted tickets on a much cheaper scale. As a frontispiece to Mr. Bowley's prospectus, a fac-simile is given of the only known copy in the composer's handwriting of the song "O Liberty, thou choicest treasure!" now in the fine collection of Handelian MSS. preserved by M. Victor Schoelcher, the eminent amateur collector. Although Thursday was the first day on which tickets could be sold to the public, we understand that on the opening of the list nearly 2,500 guineas worth of tickets had been sold. We are glad to hear that it is the intention of the directors not to dispose of any tickets to the trade at less than the market price, and the consequence will be that if the music-sellers make any profit at all, it must be by selling tickets at a premium. Those, therefore, who wish to be present, should lose no time in obtaining their tickets at the fountain-head.

The *Glasgow Bulletin* states that Mr. Harcourt Bland, a favourite comedian in the North, and now of the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, has accepted an advantageous engagement with Mr. Harris, who is to succeed Mr. Charles Kean, in the management of the Princess's Theatre, London. Mr. Bland's histrionic abilities (says the *Bulletin*) are of the highest order,

and we are persuaded that he will speedily attain a distinguished position on the London stage. His admirable writings on the Apocalypse have made him a name among the *literati* of Scotland, at the same time that his genial and fresh interpretation of high class comedy has rendered him a universal favourite with the frequenters of the Dunlop-street Theatre.—[*Comedy and the Apocalypse* is certainly a curious mixture.]

An American paper states that the profits of Mrs. Kemble's readings for the past season are estimated at from 6,000 to 7,000 dollars. She will never give a Shaksperian reading in New York again, and a season next winter in Boston will terminate her appearance in public altogether.

At the Francais, Madame Guyon came out for the first time last week in the characters of *Cleopatra* in Corneille's "Rodogune," and *Madame Georges* in the pretty comedy of "Le Droit de Conquête," by M. Legouvé.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says that a new piece called "David Garrick" is in rehearsal at the Gaîté. Paulin Menier, who recently attained so much success in the "Coches du Père Martin," which London playgoers are still admiring until the title of the "Porter's Knot," is to perform the part of the little actor.

M. Alexandre Dumas arrived at Constantinople, on his return from Circassia, on the 26th of February. He was accompanied by M. Morin, the painter; and according to the *Pressed'Orient*, both travellers paraded the streets of Stamboul for several days, in flaming Circassian costume—white fur bonnet, gold-laced jacket, embroidered boots, and girdle filled with pistols and daggers. M. Alexandre Dumas was expected to start at once for France; but to return in the autumn in a yacht of his own, which he recently purchased, and in which he intended to cruise all over the Euxine and Mediterranean.

#### NEW MUSIC.

*Moore's Irish Melodies.* With Symphonies and Accompaniments for the Pianoforte, by M. W. BALFE. London: Novello, Dean-street, Soho.

MOORE is a household deity. His minstrelsy is always welcome. But in nothing is he so much idolised as in his Irish melodies—melodies as purely a national tribute as poet ever bequeathed to his country. Everybody knows that Moore was essentially one of nature's musicians; he had a very misty idea of science, and to supply what was deemed in his day a want, the pen of Sir John Stevenson was laid under contribution for symphonies and accompaniments. In very many instances the "strokes of art" were incumbrances rather than helps. Since the palmy days of Miss Stephens and Mr. Braham the songs of Erin have been, comparatively speaking, neglected. There are now signs of a vigorous new life. An Irish melody that has the affix of Moore, forms an interesting feature in a concert programme, especially when its interpretation is intrusted to a popular vocalist. Mr. Novello, foreseeing a great and growing demand for the effusions of the celebrated bard, if submitted to the public in an available and more attractive form than has existed hitherto, obtained the services of Mr. Balfé to rearrange the accompaniments, and, in fact, to edit the work. By thus putting "the right man in the right place" a very excellent idea has been consummated. Any song or duet may be had separately for a very trifling consideration, and the entire work, elegantly bound, at a diminished ratio. Moore in his present guise will be a valuable addition to the musical libraries of all who admire the beautiful in art combined with the lovely in song.

*Weep no More.* Canzonet. The words by JOHN FLETCHER (A.D. 1617). The music by ALICE MARY SMITH. London: Leader and Cook, New Bond-street.—Unfortunately for the composer nearly all the melodious phrases which make up her song, have had claimants for the last half century at least.

#### SCIENCE AND INVENTIONS.

##### MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETIES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—On Friday evening, the 11th instant, Dr. Odiling delivered a lecture on the properties of magnesium, calcium, and lithium. He first explained the processes by which the bases of magnesium, lime, and lithium, are extracted, which may be done either by electrical agency, by substituting one metal for another for which there is a greater affinity, and by the ordinary mode in which metals generally are extracted from their combinations with oxygen and other matters. The properties of magnesium are remarkable. It is a white, hard metal, more resembling silver than aluminium does, and it is also lighter than the latter metal. Magnesium, though very brittle, may be formed into wire by forcing it through a small hole after having been heated. A piece of wire of this kind was made, and, to show the combustibility of the metal, one end of the wire was held in a gas flame, when it took fire and continued burning with an intensely bright white

light. It was afterwards plunged, whilst burning, into a jar of oxygen gas, when a dazzling light, surpassing that emitted even by the combustion of phosphorus in oxygen, was produced. The white fumes that filled the jar were magnesia. Calcium does not possess such remarkable properties as magnesium, and, not being so volatile when heated, it is only partially combustible. Lithium possesses properties which distinguish it from all other metallic substances. It is not only the lightest of all solid bodies, but it floats upon oil. To illustrate the comparative specific gravities of some of the metals, bars of wood were shown representing the magnitude of different metals of the same weight, from platinum to lithium. A small cube of wood, representing a given weight of platinum, was extended into a bar forty times its length to represent an equivalent weight of lithium. Lithium is nearly equally combustible with magnesium, and a wire of it lighted at one end burned away like a taper, emitting a most beautiful white light of great splendour. Dr. Odling concluded a very interesting lecture by a comparison of the ultimate atoms of the new metals; and, from the correspondence between them, he said it might be inferred that there are general principles in which they all agree.—On Tuesday afternoon Professor Owen delivered, at the above institution, the eighth lecture of his course on fossil mammals. The fossil remains of quadrupeds in the upper tertiary strata of South Asia, the south of France, and in England, were specially noticed, particularly those of the hippopotamus, of which there are abundant remains on the Norfolk coast, in the Val d'Arno, and in the southern slopes of the Himalaya mountains. In approaching the latest geological deposits the approximation of the fossil remains to those of existing genera and species becomes more and more perceptible; and in the uppermost recognised tertiary stratum, which has been called the "pliocene," as many as 85 per cent. of the fossils discovered, are similar in species to the animals now living. One of the facts that becomes strongly evident from the fossil remains in these upper strata is that at the period the animals whose fossil bones are imbedded in them roamed about on the earth, the surface must have presented a very different geographical distribution of land and water from the present. The hippopotamus is now limited to the tropical parts of Africa, but the bones of this thick-skinned quadruped are among those most frequently found in the upper tertiary strata, and in the overlying drift in all parts of Europe, which shows that at that period there was a land communication between parts of the globe now separated by deep seas. The two-horned rhinoceros also was one of the pachyderms that then lived in this part of Europe; and latterly some fossil bones of that quadruped have been discovered in the island of Malta, from which it is inferred that there was in those early periods of the earth's history a land communication between the continents of Europe and Africa where the Mediterranean now rolls. After the "pliocene" strata had been deposited, Professor Owen observed, the earth must have been subjected to great changes, in which the dry land of what now constitutes England was submerged in the ocean, and the "drift" which overlies the regular strata was deposited by glacial action, the operation of the ice being indicated by the deep scratches on the surface of rocks as the earth again rose from the sea. In those drift deposits are abundant remains of the hippopotamus, the rhinoceros, and the elephant, which are found in the upper deposits on the banks of the Thames. The neighbourhood of Brentford is particularly rich in the organic remains of those animals. Among the fossil bones of the uppermost tertiary strata in Europe have been found some of those of the giraffe, which, like the hippopotamus, is now limited to Central Africa. The fossil bones of that animal are readily distinguished by its cervical vertebrae, the length of which is much greater than the neck bones of any other quadruped. Professor Owen observed that the number of the bones of the neck of all animals is the same, whether the neck be long or short; the greater length being produced by an elongation of the bones between each joint. He noticed, as one of those nice distinctions by which comparative anatomists are enabled to ascertain the character of an animal from a single bone, that the cervical vertebrae of the lama of South America are different from those of most other mammals in having no external perforation for the passage of the artery that conveys blood to the brain; and, in consequence of this peculiarity, a long cervical fossil bone found in South America, which, from its general appearance, was thought to have been one of the neck bones of a giraffe, was determined to have belonged to a gigantic lama. Professor Owen concluded by alluding to the discoveries which have been made in the north of Siberia of the remains of a large mammoth, imbedded in ice, so perfectly preserved that the skin, covered with hair and wool, was collected entire, and is now in the museum at St. Petersburg. The covering of woolly hair on this mammoth, and a similar covering on the skin of some remains of a hippopotamus, also found in the Arctic regions, show that those animals were calculated to live in a cold climate, and that before they became extinct they were occupying at least a temperate part of the globe.

**STATISTICAL SOCIETY.**—The anniversary meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon at 12, St. James's-square, the Vice-President, the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, in the chair. The report, read by the hon. sec., Mr. Newmarch, stated that the society, at the completion of the first quarter of a century of its career, was in a satisfactory condition. At the present time its fellows numbered 369, and the income of last year had been 824. There is a balance at the bankers of 3117. Carefully condensed summaries of the more important monthly official tables, relating to imports, exports, shipping, bullion, poor relief, &c., had been introduced under the title of quarterly returns, in the recent numbers of the society's journal, thus affording the fellows in a scientific form a continuous register of some of the more essential of the data indicative of the progress of the country. The report further stated that the interest established in connection with the statistical department of the labours of the British Association for the Advancement of Science had been maintained by the proceedings at Leeds of the section (F) of Economic Science and Statistics; and the second meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Social Science, held in October last at Liverpool under the presidency of Lord John Russell, had most signally proved the great importance now attached by the general public to the pursuits and inquiries which, twenty-five years ago, were first made the subject of distinct recognition by the formation of this society. Lord John Russell consented to be placed in nomination for the office of President in succession to Lord Stanley. Among the losses by death during the year had been that of Mr. Hallam, one of the founders of the society, and one of its most active supporters in its earlier years. The chairman, in replying to the vote of thanks passed to him, said that the society was an auxiliary to almost every other society. Social reform, for example, could not be beneficially amended without sound statistical inquiry. It was the duty of every member of Parliament to be a fellow of that society, for, though it might be said that members had statistics enough in blue books, yet the society took the undigested heap contained in those papers, and reduced it to readable and really valuable matter.

**CHEMICAL SOCIETY.**—On March 3, Colonel Philip Yorke, vice-president, in the chair, Dr. H. Debus and Mr. M. I. Lansdell were elected fellows. Dr. Guthrie read a paper "On some Derivatives from the Olefines."

**SOCIETY OF ARTS.**—At the meeting held on Wednesday evening, Sir Richard Bethell, M.P., in the chair, the paper read was "On Trade Marks," by Professor Leone Levi, who condemned the practice of affixing such marks to articles of inferior quality.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.**—The monthly meeting took place on Tuesday night. Mr. Horatio Ross in the chair. The chairman presented the society's silver medals to the Rev. T. M. Raven and Mr. Lyndon Smith, for two pictures shown in the late exhibition of the society. Mr. L. Smith made some observations "On Photography, more particularly on the Wet Collodion Process, and on Printing," in which he entered very fully into his practice with that process. A communication was afterwards read from Mr. John Sang, "On Varnish for Collodion Negatives," in which he gave his experience of seven different kinds of varnish, and gave the preference to that called "Schneee's Varnish." On the conclusion of the stated business of the meeting, Mr. J. T. Taylor proposed that a committee be appointed to examine and report to the society on the various forms of lenses recently introduced, which was unanimously agreed to. It was unanimously resolved, in consideration of his discoveries in photography, to present a gold medal to Mr. Fox Talbot.

**HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.**—A meeting of the literary section of this society was held on Monday evening, Dr. Kendrick in the chair. Mr. Wallace Fyfe, editor of the *Dorset County Chronicle*, exhibited some Roman pottery, which had been exhumed from the castle grounds at Dorchester. Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith also read a description of a large and most interesting series of ancient British implements in stone, found by Mr. Edward Tindall, of York and Bridlington, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. The collection displayed the implements of war, the chase, and domestic uses of a tribe called the Parish, which, according to Ptolemy, inhabited a district in the East Riding contiguous to the sea, which is very little known even in our day. It included, in addition to celts and hammers of stone, many hundred examples of flint weapons, comprising every form of arrow-head, from the rudely edged splinter of flint to the artistically formed barb; a great variety of the larger javelin and spear heads, together with knives, saws, and sling-stones of various shapes and sizes.—The paper for the evening was on "Runic Inscriptions, Saxon and Scandinavian," by Mr. Alexander Craig Gibson.

**MUSEUM OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY.**—On Monday Professor Ramsay delivered his fourth lecture to working men on "Brander, Webster, Cuvier, Lyell, Agassiz, Buckland, and the Tertiary Strata." After alluding to the several geologists who had succeeded William Smith, and had verified his theories, he proceeded to draw attention to the formation of glaciers. There was no doubt that these had existed in former

periods where now they were not found. If they looked at the diagram of Llanberis, they would perceive that the hills there were smoothly rounded off, and this had been caused by the friction of the ice. In the Alps the glaciers of the present day were about 8,500 feet above the level, and as the snow thawed it took with it stones and rocks. Every year these were pushed forward, and it was owing to this cause that now they discovered those large boulder stones of a different nature to the strata of the country in the plains of Germany, which had evidently come from Sweden, and even so far distant as Greenland, and in many of the places where glaciers had been they would find circular heaps of stones which had been left by their action. M. Agassiz was well versed in the theory of the formation of glaciers; and at the meeting of the British Association in 1839, at Glasgow, he had brought the subject prominently before the notice of that body. Dr. Buckland had likewise manifested a great interest on this topic; and in the same year Agassiz had gone into Scotland, and, from the observations he had there made, he was convinced that at one time Ben Nevis had likewise had glaciers. The same observations he had likewise applied to the mountains of Cumberland and Wales; and he gathered such indubitable evidence as to convince him that at one period these mountains were likewise filled with glaciers. The climate had, however, changed considerably since that time; and it was a remark now that this had varied even within our own knowledge.

**ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.**—At the meeting of the Society, on Monday evening, Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Pres., in the chair, the paper read was "Explorations in South Australia," by Messrs. Babbage, Warburton, Stuart, and others. Communicated by the Right Hon. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart., her Majesty's Secretary for the Colonies. The discoveries of Mr. Babbage were confined chiefly to the tract between Lakes Gairdner and Torrens; he, however, followed the western shores of the latter lake to about lat. 30 deg. S., where it terminates, and proceeded northward, meeting with a lake which he has named Gregory. Major Warburton examined the S.W. shores of Lake Gairdner, returned by Coeyana (near Streaky Bay) on the west, and then pursued an easterly direction to Port Augusta; starting from this place northward in search of Babbage, he followed his track to Lake Gregory, where they met. Mr. Stuart, who accompanied Captain Sturt in the memorable expedition into the Central Desert in 1845, started with only one white and a black man, five horses, and a scanty supply of provisions, from Elizabeth Camp (31 deg. 10 min. S.), proceeded northerly to lat. 29 deg. 20 min., where he crossed a large gum creek, in which fish were seen, and continued in a north-west direction, passing several other gum creeks, taking their rise in the long range named by Governor Sir R. M'Donnell, Stuart Range. This range extends in a north-west direction, broken more or less here and there, but still forming a continuous waterparting from along the west shore of Lake Torrens to lat. 28 deg. S., and long. 133 E. He then struck a westerly course for forty miles over good country, with plenty of grass, turning south-westernly, afterwards southerly to Denial Bay, on the coast; and from thence to Port Augusta, pursuing throughout a zig-zag course. Mr. Stuart penetrated, in a straight line, 249 miles to the west of Mr. Babbage's camp at the Elizabeth, having traversed by various routes nearly 4 deg. of longitude and 3 deg. of latitude north of that position. It would be difficult to overrate the importance of these discoveries, as it seems probable (to quote the words of Governor M'Donnell) "that at least from 12,000 to 18,000 square miles of country, available hereafter for pastoral purposes, have been opened up by Mr. Stuart's explorations. One result of all these explorations is that the shape of Lake Torrens, as drawn upon maps, has been entirely changed; instead of preserving a horseshoe form, as was supposed, it is found to be divided into several detached lakes."

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—At the meeting on March 15th, Joseph Locke, Esq., M.P., Pres., in the chair, the paper read was an "Account of Experiments upon Elliptical Cast-iron Arches," by Mr. T. F. Chappé, M.Inst.C.E. These experiments were undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining the safe load to which elliptical cast-iron arches might be subjected, as well as the most economical distribution of the metal. The intrados of the arches was, in all cases, a segment of an ellipse, in order to obtain the greatest headway at the haunches. The experiments were conducted upon two ribs, placed two feet apart from centre to centre, and resting on cast-iron abutment pieces, keyed-up tight against the springings. Diagonal stays and longitudinal struts were also introduced, to prevent lateral motion. The first experiment was made upon a model, one-fourth the real size, of one arch of a bridge intended to be erected over the River Trent, near Newark. The (model) arch had a clear span of 14 feet 6 inches, and a rise of 16 inches; a camber of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch being given in fixing the halves together. The sectional area of the arch, at the crown, was 2-43 inches—that of the curved rib near the springing 2 inches—about midway between the springing and the crown 1-75 inch, and of the spandrel 1-34 inch. The weight of each arch was 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs. The other ex-

periments were made upon a model, one-sixth the real size, of an arch erected over the Gloucester and Stonehouse and Great Western Railways, at Standish, six miles from Gloucester. The dimensions of the model were—span, 13 feet 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and rise 1 foot 10 inches. The sectional area, at the crown, was 1·25 inch, of the curved rib near the springing, 1·055 inch, about midway between the springing and the crown 0·993 inch, about the middle of the upper rib, 0·883 inch, and of the spandril, 0·57 inch. The weight of each arch was 3 qrs 26 lbs. The following pressures were given as those to which the arches were subjected in these experiments:

Experiment.	Ultimate load.	How distributed.	Pressure per sq. inch of sectional area.	
			At crown.	At smallest section.
No. 1	Tons cwt. 30 10	Uniformly.	Tons. 852	Tons. 11·83
2	18 0	Ditto.	680	8·58
3	12 0	Partially removed (from the haunches.)	4·54	5·72
4	5 0	On one haunch.	2·36	2·98
5	3 12	At centre.	2·93	3·70
	3 14	Ditto.	3·00	3·85

In the first experiment, the ultimate pressure was not reached. In the second and third experiments, one half arch was out of line laterally, beyond what would be permitted in practice, and was wanting in that assistance which would have been afforded, in the number of ribs required for the width of a bridge, so that the ultimate pressures indicated were below what such arches might be estimated to bear. This was also the case in the last two experiments, in which the castings were faulty, and the tests were such as were not likely to occur in practice. It was thought that cast-iron arches, of the form experimented upon, might safely be considered capable of bearing a pressure of between 8 and 10 tons per square inch of section. From the position of the fractures, it was believed that the spandrels were too weak, in proportion to the size of the arches.

GEOLoGICAL SOCIETY.—On March 9. Sir C. Lyell, Vice-President in the Chair. The following communications were read: 1. "On some Minerals from Persia." By the Hon. C. A. Murray. (Forwarded from the Foreign Office by order of Lord Malmesbury.) 2. "On the Veins of Tin-ore at Evigtok, near Arksut, Greenland." By J. W. Tayler, F.G.S. 3. "On the Permian Chitonidae." By J. W. Kirby, Esq. communicated by T. Davidson, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S. 4. "On the Vegetable Structures in Coal." By J. W. Dawson, LL.D., F.G.S., Principal of McGill College, Montreal. The author offers the following general conclusions with regard to the Coal formation: (1) With respect to the plants which have contributed the vegetable matter of the coal, these are principally the Sigillariae and Calamiteæ, especially the former. (2) The woody matter of the axes of Sigillariae and Calamiteæ and of coniferous trunks, as well as the scalariform tissues of the axes of the Lepidodendreae and Ulodendreae, and the woody and vascular bundles of ferns, appear principally in the state of mineral charcoal. The outer cortical envelope of these plants, together with such portions of their wood and of herbaceous plants and foliage as were submerged without subaërial decay, occur as compact coal of various degrees of purity, the cortical matter, owing to its greater resistance to aqueous infiltration, affording the purest coal. The relative amounts of all these substances found in the states of mineral charcoal and compact coal depend principally upon the greater or less prevalence of subaërial decay occasioned by greater or less dryness of the swampy flats on which the coal accumulated. (3) The structure of the coal accords with the view that its materials were accumulated by growth without any driftage of materials. The Sigillariae and Calamiteæ, tall and branchless, and clothed only with rigid linear leaves, formed dense groves and jungles, in which the stumps and fallen trunks of dead trees became resolved by decay into shells of bark and loose fragments of rotten wood which currents must have swept away, but which the most gentle inundations, or even heavy rains, could scatter in layers over the surface, where they gradually became imbedded in a mass of roots, fallen leaves, and herbaceous plants. (4) The rate of accumulation of coal was very slow. The climate of the period, in the northern temperate zone, was of such a character that the true conifers show rings of growth, not larger, or much less distinct than those of many of their northern congeners. The Sigillariae and Calamiteæ were not, as often supposed, succulent plants. The former had, it is true, a very thick cellular inner bark; but their dense woody axes, their thick and nearly imperishable outer bark, their scanty and rigid foliage would indicate no very rapid growth. In the case of Sigillariae, the variations in the leaf-scars in different parts of the trunk, the intercalation of new ridges at the surface representing that of new woody wedges in the axis, the transverse marks left by the successive stages of upward growth, all indicate that at least several years must have been required for the growth of stems of moderate

size. The enormous roots of these trees, and the conditions of the coal-swamps, must have exempted them from the danger of being overthrown by violence. They probably fell, in successive generations, from natural decay; and making every allowance for other materials, we may safely assert that every foot of thickness of pure bituminous coal implies the quiet growth and fall of at least fifty generations of Sigillariae, and therefore an undisturbed condition of forest-growth enduring through many centuries. Further, there is evidence that an immense amount of loose parenchymatous tissue, and even of wood, perished by decay; and we do not know to what extent even the most durable tissues

may have disappeared in this way, so that in many coal-seams we may have only a very small part of the vegetable matter produced. Lastly, the results stated in this paper refer to coal-beds of the middle coal-measures. A few facts which I have observed lead me to believe that in the thin seams of the lower coal-measures remains of Neegerathia and Lepidodendron are more abundant than in those of the middle coal-measures. In the upper coal-measures similar modifications may be expected. These differences have been to a certain extent ascertained by Goeppert for some of the coal-beds of Silesia, and by Lesqueroux for those of Ohio; but the subject is deserving of further investigation, more especially by the means proposed in this paper, and which I hope, should time and opportunity permit, to apply to the seventy-six successive coal-beds of the South Joggins.

#### SCIENTIFIC ITEMS.

SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—Professor Tyndall states that he has submitted india-rubber and gutta-percha covered wires to a test of extreme severity, and has found the insulating powers of both substances excellent. He does not know which of them is best, and has never made an experiment with either of them in which hydraulic pressure was applied.

THE VACANT OFFICE OF RADCLIFFE OBSERVER.—The *Oxford Chronicle* states that the names of several gentlemen eminent in the science of astronomy are mentioned for the vacancy at the Radcliffe Observatory, caused by the death of Mr. Johnson. Amongst them are those of Mr. Pogson, of the Hartwell Observatory, and Mr. Donkin, Savilian Professor of Astronomy in the University of Oxford. The former gentleman was for a period of seven years Mr. Johnson's chief assistant, and is consequently well qualified to carry out those important scientific works left in an unfinished state.

THE REMAINS OF DR. HERVEY.—A correspondent, signing "Academicus," asks why honours similar to those intended to be paid to the remains of Dr. Hunter are not paid to those of the immortal Hervey, which lie (he says) encased in lead in the family vault at Hemel Hempstead, Herts. Another correspondent, "M. A." contradicts this statement, and says that Hervey lies buried with the members of his family in a vault under the church of Hempstead, near Saffron Walden, in Essex.

PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE DARK.—The *Photographic News*, in giving a description of M. Nièpce's method of obtaining photographs by means of light stored up in hermetically sealed tubes, expresses a doubt whether light is in reality the cause of the effect described, and further consideration led to further doubt. It appeared more reasonable to attribute the phenomenon of the production of a photograph in the dark to chemical agency, inasmuch as M. Nièpce has now discovered that photographs may be produced by the action of radiant heat; the opinion is justifiable that this heat, combined it may be with a chemical reaction between the bodies in the tin tube, is the actual producing cause of the effect he has described. As a proof of this, an experiment recently made is detailed. Half an ounce of crystallised tartaric acid was dissolved in about two ounces of water; in this were soaked some sheets of thick English paper. When the solution was well absorbed, the sheets were taken out and hung up to dry. A common tinned iron canister, about 8 inches long and 3 wide, with a lid, was well cleaned inside, and when the sheets of paper were nearly dry, the inside of the tube was lined twice with the paper. The directions of M. Nièpce were now followed. A little water was introduced inside the tube, so as to wet moisten the paper, and the excess poured out. The tube was again closed, and heated to a temperature too high to be borne by the naked hand. It was then opened directly, and applied face downwards upon a sheet of ordinary sensitive chloride of silver paper—a piece of handbill having previously been laid on to serve as a negative. It was suffered to remain in that position about ten minutes. The result was precisely similar to that described in our last number but one, as having been accomplished by M. Nièpce, in the presence of Professor Wheatstone. The circle of the sensitive paper which was covered by the mouth of the tube became visibly blackened in those parts which were unprotected by the piece of handbill, the letters on which were impressed white on a black ground, and distinctly legible. This, therefore, proves conclusively that light has nothing whatever to do with the operation, inasmuch as the whole of the manipulations

we have described were performed at night, by the light of a small lamp. The whole of the materials employed had also been kept in darkness for some time previously. It is thus clearly shown that the experiment upon which M. Nièpce chiefly bases the theory of the preservation of light, will succeed perfectly under conditions where no light has been previously absorbed; and thus it is but natural to conclude that some of the other extraordinary results obtained by that distinguished physicist may possibly admit of a less improbable explanation than one which demands the existence of a new and almost inconceivable property in sunlight.

EXHIBITION OF 1861.—Colonel Owen, C.E., has collected some figures of railway mileage and railway traffic, which help to show the increased prospects of success that would attend another exhibition in 1861. The number of visitors (upwards of 6,000,000 in 1851) does not, of course, depend altogether upon the increase of population, but upon the facilities offered for conveying that population to the Exhibition. The population in 1861 will have increased fully 20 per cent. as compared with 1851; and the capital of the country has increased in the same proportion. The number of manufacturers will be augmented, and their productive power developed, thereby promising a better display for visitors; whilst the number of visitors and their ability to pay for conveyance and admission will be increased, thereby promising a better reward for manufacturers. Railway traffic has increased from 1851, as follows:

Year.	Separate Journeys in Round Nos.	Increase.	Miles Open.	Jrds. Inc.	Miles per Mile. Inc.
1851	85,000,000	12,000,000	6,755	429	12,640 1,125
1853	102,000,000	13,000,000	7,488	375	13,659 1,128
1854	111,000,000	9,000,000	7,846	358	14,160 501
1855	119,000,000	8,000,000	8,177	331	14,503 343
1856	129,000,000	10,000,000	8,502	325	15,213 710
1857	139,000,000	10,000,000	8,901	399	15,617 404

At this ratio the figures in 1861 will stand thus:

1861 | 177,000,000 | 9,500,000 | 10,300 | 350 | 17,217 | 400

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday, March 21.—Royal Academy, 8. Lecture on Sculpture by K. Westmacott, Esq., R.A.—Royal Institute of British Architects, 8.

Tuesday, 22.—Royal Institution, 3. Professor Owen, "On Fossil Mammals."—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8. "On the Melbourne (South Australia) Gravitation Waterworks," by Mr. M. B. Jackson.

Wednesday, 23.—Society of Arts, 8. Dr. J. Forbes Weston, "On Cotton in India, its Present Culture, and Manufacture."—Geological & Professor Huxley, "On some Reptilian Remains from South Africa: *Rhamphophorus Brevirostris*; On the Dermal Armor of *Crocodiles Hastingsii*; and On some Remains of Cetacea and Birds from New Zealand."

Thursday, 24.—Royal Academy, 8. Lecture on Painting by Professor Hart, R.A.—Royal Institution, 3. Professor Tyndall, "On the Force of Gravity."

Friday, 25.—Royal Institution, 8. Meeting, 9. Robert A. Smith, Esq., Ph.D., "On the Estimation of Organic Matter in the Atmosphere."

Saturday, 26.—Royal Institution, 3. Dr. W. A. Miller, "On Organic Chemistry."

#### ARCHEOLOGICAL SUMMARY.

MR. J. H. PARKER, of Oxford, so well known for the books he has published in architecture, and also for his own personal researches in the study of that branch of art, at home and abroad, gave the results of a series of investigations in Ireland at the last evening meeting of the Society of Antiquaries. He descended on the age and character of the ecclesiastical, military, and domestic remains at present scattered over Ireland; instance Trim and Malahide as the best castles remaining; and devoting considerable attention to the peculiarities of the sacred ruins. He took a very common-sense view of their age and character; of course, in opposition to much that has been written by Irish antiquaries; and he spoke of the architecture of Galway as possessing features of Irish style peculiarly—a conclusion opposed to the views, not only of Irish writers, but such authors as Inglis, who knew Spain and its buildings, and who have identified the Galway houses with the Spanish style—a reasonable inference when the connection of the Galway merchantmen with Spain is considered, and their remarkable laws for the governance of their city which avoided all connection with the Irish generally; for proof of which see Hardiman's curious history of the town.

The Wroxeter excavations have now brought to light many floors of houses covered with tesserae, and supported on pillars of brick, forming hypocausts to heat the rooms, similar to those found in the early part of the present century at Bath, and engraved and published by Lysons. One floor is supported by nearly one hundred such pillars, which are formed of the squared Roman brick, laid one on the other, and secured by mortar. The hollow flue tiles, that communicated therewith up the sides of the rooms, have also been found in situ, and portions of wall-painting, as well as very large quantities of coarse window glass, and many coins of the later Roman emperors.

A curious discovery has just been made in the archives of the City of London—a new fact about

Chaucer. In the reign of Edward III. a lease was granted to Geoffrey Chaucer of a room above one of the City gates—Aldgate—and of premises adjoining. The poet was the lessee, in the east of London, of a room like that over Temple Bar, and of a house adjoining, like that of the Messrs. Child.

For the last two years there has met at stated intervals a club of noblemen and gentlemen devoted to the Fine Arts of past ages, from the Roman era to that of the Renaissance; which receives members at each other's houses, exhibiting their own collections, and such portions of other collections as may illustrate any particular branch of antique art settled on as that for the evening's study. Three meetings have been held this spring—at the Marquis d'Azeglio's (the Sardinian Ambassador), at the Brompton Museum, and at J. R. Swinton, Esq., Pimlico. The latter conversations were specially devoted to Palissy ware and early Limoges enamels, and, by the aid of the contributions of many eminent private collectors, an admirable display was made; the portrait enamels of the age of Francis I., belonging to H. Dauby Seymour, M.P., and the Faience of Henry II., belonging to the Baron Rothschild, are unequalled in beauty and value. The wealth hidden in private residences in London is marvellous, and is generally only known to a limited circle; these agreeable meetings will tend to diffuse knowledge, and taste for fine antiquities.

Upwards of four hundred of the finest examples of gems, forming an important portion of the Herz collection, have been lent to the Brompton Museum for exhibition, by their present proprietor, Matthew Uzielli, Esq. They are placed in the principal saloon, and are excellent and interesting specimens of the arts of Greece and Rome, whose gem-engravers have never yet been surpassed.

Mr. J. T. Blight, of Penzance, who published a series of engravings (by himself) of the principal crosses and other early monuments of Cornwall, which abound in that county more than in any other, has recently pointed out in the *Cornwall Gazette* the curious fact of one being celebrated in an ancient Welsh triad. It is that at Boscastle, in Cornwall, which is noted as one of the three principal circles in England. Mr. Blight remarks that most of the circles in Cornwall consist of nineteen stones; this one has that number, but differs from the rest by an additional upright stone in the centre. This is evidently a mark of superior distinction, and appears to confirm the Welsh triad, which names the other two—Salisbury, and Bryn Gwyddon in Wales.

Utilitarianism has been at work in York; and without reason has proposed the destruction of the only remaining barbican to one of the gates of that ancient city—the Walmgate Bar, a quiet lonely gate leading into that part of the country where little traffic ever occurs, and for the removal of which no cause but the love of meddling can be given. It is the only example remaining in the kingdom of these outer defences of an Edwardian gate, and is really more valuable than York Cathedral as an architectural rarity. The societies of Lincoln and Newcastle, as well as the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, have exerted themselves to save the city from this gross act of Vandalism; we hope they may succeed.

#### LITERARY NEWS.

In anticipation of a vacancy for the University of Cambridge, several influential members of the University have resolved on presenting a requisition to Mr. Beresford Hope to become a candidate.

Mr. Catterson Smith has been elected President of the Royal Hibernian Academy, in the room of Dr. Petrie, resigned.

Sir Archibald Alison delivered a lecture in the City Hall, Glasgow, on Tuesday night. The subject was the *Currency Laws*, showing their effect on the profits of trade and wages of labour.

The Edinburgh correspondent of the *Fifeshire Advertiser* announces that the *Edinburgh Advertiser* on the 1st of April becomes incorporated with the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*. The *Advertiser* was started in 1764, and, consequently, had it lived another six years, would have been a century in existence.

Mr. T. Mason Jones, of Trinity College, Dublin, is delivering a course of orations at Willis's Rooms, on Curran, Grattan, and John Milton. Mr. Jones rests entirely upon his oratorical powers, and thus takes a stand apart from all other entertainers and instructors. Two of his orations have already been given; and the third, on Grattan, will be delivered on Tuesday evening next.

There is a report "going the rounds" that Mr. Thackeray has accepted 4,500*l.* to write for two years for Messrs. Smith and Elder. Write what? Surely so eminent a writer would not farm himself out to any publisher. Would not this be like the notion of the manager who locked up a dramatic author in his room and took away his breeches until he had finished his comedy?

The Milton Club was a short time back put up for sale, but the sale was countermanded for the purpose of seeing if some arrangement could not be come to whereby the property would be saved from passing

out of the hands of the body. It has now been arranged that the club shall be kept up until next May, when the meetings which are held during that period of the year, may help them. Meanwhile, however, the premises at the back of the club are to be sold, which will greatly increase the funds.

The annual general meeting of the Printers' Pension Society was held at the London Tavern (John Bell, Esq., in the chair), on Monday. The report stated that the receipts amounted to 1,647*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*, and the expenditure to 1,488*l.* 17*s.*, and the balance in hand 158*l.* 15*s.* The funded property now consists of 8,870*l.* The number of pensioners was 64. The committee have endeavoured to complete the Caxton Fund but have not succeeded, there being a deficiency of 100*l.*

Among the publications of the approaching season we are promised a series of romances by the Countess Montemerli, wife of the well-known Italian exile Count Lorenzo Montemerli, who has shown himself so active either in the cause of art or of his country. The Countess, of whose literary capacity we hear the most favourable opinions, has written these romances in French. The series will commence in May with a romance entitled "La Bella Balia," which will be completed in ten or twelve fortnightly parts. Mr. Jeffs, of Burlington-arcade, has undertaken the publication.

The judges appointed to award the prize founded as a memorial of the late Dr. Arnold, have notified to the Vice-Chancellor that they have adjudged the prize to Mr. Charles Syng Christopher Bowen, B.A., Fellow of Balliol College. The subject of the prize is, "Delphi, considered locally, morally, and politically." Mr. Bowen was the successful competitor for the Hertford prize in 1855; in 1856 he was placed in the first class in classics; at the first public examination in 1857 he was appointed to Dean Ireland's Scholarship, and obtained the Latin verse prize, entitled, "Sebastopol;" and in Easter Term of last year was awarded a first class at the final classical examinations. He was shortly afterwards elected fellow of the society of which he held a scholarship.

It may be interesting to the lover of autographs and manuscripts to be informed that in addition to the autographs of Shakspere already well-known, there is another in the possession of Llewellyn Jewitt, Esq., F.S.A., of Derby. In the same gentleman's hands, too, is a valuable MS., long supposed to have been lost, viz., the original MS. of the poetical works of Charles Cotton (*the Cotton of Walton's Complete Angler*). The author's copy of "Ruding's Annals of Coinage," with the corrections, notes, and additions in his own handwriting, was a few years ago possessed by William Leeson, Esq., Castle Donington, Leicestershire. At his death it became the property of his widow, now resident at the same village. To the numismatologist it is an extremely interesting volume. In the library at Donington Park is a rare volume containing the autograph of John Wycliffe, the "Morning Star of the Reformation."

The Report of the Newspaper Press Fund, just carried, states that the number of members now enrolled is 88; that Lord Campbell has consented to become Vice-President; that the Lord Mayor has accepted the office of Hon. Solicitor, and that a vacancy in the committee, caused by the resignation of Mr. Williams, has been filled up by Mr. Stirling Coyne.

Donations have been made to the funds by Lord St. Leonards, C. W. Dilke, Esq., G. F. Smith, Esq., and Sir Macdonald Stephenson. The members are called upon by the committee to consider the propriety of forming two separate funds—the Members' Fund and the Benevolent Fund, the latter to be formed by donations, and the former by subscriptions of the members, and this question was, by the second quarterly meeting, on the 1st ultimo, referred back to the committee. The first annual meeting of the subscribers will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on April 2, when the question of the two funds will be taken into consideration.

Book packets cannot be registered to any foreign countries except as letters, and there are still a few of the colonies also to which the system of registration as regards book packets has not yet been extended. The following is a list of the colonies for which book packets may at present be registered upon payment of the book postage, viz.: British West Indies—Antigua, Barbadoes, Berbice, Demerara, Dominica, Grenada, Honduras, Jamaica, Montserrat, Nassau, Nevis, St. Kitt's, St. Lucia, St. Vincent's, Tobago, Tortola, Trinidad, and Turk's Island. British North America—Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, and Bermuda. Other British Colonies—Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Hongkong, Malta, East Indies, Mauritius, Natal, New South Wales, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, South Australia, and West Australia. Those for Ceylon, Hongkong, East Indies, Mauritius, New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia, may be registered via Marseilles as well as via Southampton. The colonies to which book packets cannot at present be registered (beyond the port of despatch), except as letters, are as follow, viz., Victoria, Tasmania, New Zealand, Ascension, Gambia, Vancouver's Island, Labuan, and Falkland Islands.

The following letter is from Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, complaining of the publication of private letters in the Duke of Buckingham's "Memoirs of the Reign of George IV.": Sir—I trust that you may find space for the insertion of the annexed extract from a letter written by the late Duke of Buckingham to my father. I am induced to make this request as it contains the fittest comment upon the unwarrantable publication by the present Duke of Buckingham of letters addressed in the strictest confidence to his father, which his Grace has thought fit to give to the world in a mutilated form, without the slightest communication of his intention to the surviving representative or relatives of the writer.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, CHARLES WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN.—2, Lower Berkeley-street, March 12.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS TO THE RIGHT HON. C. W. WILLIAMS WYNN. M.P.

MY DEAR CHARLES.—I begin my letter by saying that you need be as little anxious about the future fate of your letters as a public man can be respecting his correspondence with one in his confidence. I have had occasion twice in my life (once, only a week ago) to refuse permission to people to make extracts from my papers, for the purpose of enabling one to write the life of the Minister Duke of Newcastle, and the other that of Lord Chatham—saying that I did not consider the seal of secrecy broken by the grave, and that the sons of George Grenville and the son of Lord Chatham were still living. Further, I have written a paper, to be found by my son, with my will, strictly enjoining him never to suffer any political papers which he may find to pass into any hands for examination or publication, and urging him to leave a similar charge behind him to his successor.—Yours affectionately,

B. and C.

The annual general meeting of the Royal Literary Fund for the election of officers and other business, was held on Wednesday afternoon at the chambers of the corporation in Great Russell-street, Earl Stanhope in the chair. The report of the registrar stated that 1,840*l.* had been granted in relief, of which amount 1,455*l.* had been assigned to 43 males and 385*l.* to 15 females, of which latter sex 9 were authoresses, and 6 widows of literary men. The amount of subscriptions and donations for the past year, together with the receipts of the anniversary dinner, amounted to 715*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* and there still remained a balance in hand of 205*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* The chairman stated to the meeting that the committee had received a letter from Mr. Charles Dickens, announcing the prospect of a certain offer to the society from a person not at present named, on certain terms and stipulations. With these terms and stipulations the committee were not at present acquainted, but expected to learn them fully at an interview which they had agreed to hold with Mr. Charles Dickens and another gentleman a few days hence; and they will then proceed to give them and the whole subject their most careful consideration. In a letter Mr. Dickens said that he should refrain from attending the society on the fourth anniversary meeting with his friends, but that he did not withdraw his opposition, but left it suspended over the committee. In reply to a question whether a special meeting would be held to consider Mr. Dickens's letter, the chairman thought that no answer could be made on that point until the committee were acquainted with Mr. Dickens's proposition.

The *Publisher's Circular* collects a quantity of announcements and other literary intelligence: Messrs. Chambers announce a new Encyclopaedia; "A Dictionary of Universal Knowledge for the People," on the basis of the latest edition of the German "Conversations Lexicon." The publication is first to appear in weekly numbers at 1*3d.*, and is expected to form about 7 vols. similar to the "Information for the People." The publishers state that the work has been in careful preparation for many years, that it will be abundantly illustrated with maps and engravings, be the cheapest and one of the most comprehensive encyclopedias ever published, and is, for the mean time, intended as the crowning contribution of the editors to cheap literature.—Messrs. Bradbury and Evans announce an important series of works to which they adapt their beautiful nature-printing process; the prospectus includes the promise of four volumes on "British Sea-weeds," by W. G. Johnstone, with 220 nature-printed illustrations; of two volumes on "British Ferns," by Thomas Moore, F.L.S., reprinting the letter-press of the well-known folio work (some time out of print), with 110 new illustrations; and of one volume on "British Mosses," by Dr. Lawson, with 30 illustrations, to be followed by other works uniformly printed in large 8vo.; some six volumes altogether may be expected during the present year.—Mr. Lovell Reeve has just disposed of his series of valuable popular "Natural Histories" to Messrs. Routledge and Co., who will in future publish them at a cheaper rate; the series numbers 24 volumes.—Mr. John Russell Smith announces the "Life and Times of Daniel Defoe, with Remarks," by William Chadwick.—A smaller and cheaper edition of the "Napoleon Correspondence" is in the Imperial press.

A collection of returns is made, at the order of the House of Commons, of all communications made by the officers and architect of the British Museum to the Trustees, respecting the want of space for the collections, and of all minutes of the Trustees, and of all communications between the Trustees and the Treasury upon the subject. With reference to the

proposed removal of the herbarium to Kew, the sub-committee in natural history report that while all the botanists they have examined are of opinion that it would be advantageous to form a botanical establishment at Kew, comprising an extensive herbarium and a good library, as an addition to the garden of living plants, there are differences of opinion respecting the desirability of also keeping up in the metropolis such a herbarium in connection with the extensive library of the British Museum. Sir Wm. Hooker, Dr. J. Hooker, and Dr. Lindley, are in favour of the removing of the collections from the British Museum to Kew, with the view of rendering that establishment more complete, but others believe that such a removal would be of great disservice to science by depriving the consulting botanist of ready access to a central metropolitan herbarium and library. Several suggestions are made with a view to increasing the utility of the institution; among others, that the zoological collections at present in the British Museum be separated into two collections—the one to form a typical or popular museum, the other to constitute the basis of a scientific museum, so that the one would always be open to the public, the other to the man of science, or any person seeking for information; also that a zoological library be attached to its scientific museum totally independent of the zoological portion of the library of the British Museum.

A meeting of graduates of Marischal College was held in Aberdeen, on Wednesday last, when a series of resolutions were passed condemnatory of the Fusion Scheme. The meeting pledged themselves to "use every constitutional means" to prevent the scheme being carried out.

The Jerusalem Literary Society, set on foot some years ago for the purpose of investigating on the spot the history and antiquities of the Holy Land so unaccountably neglected by the great bulk of the English residents, has resumed its meetings, under the presidency of her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Mr. Finn. The opening address treated of the duties and privileges of the British residents of Jerusalem. There were present most of the European consuls, and several distinguished travellers.

The New York Tribune reports that on the occasion of the birthday of James Russell Lowell, a number of his friends in Boston gave him a dinner on that occasion at the Parker House, which came off lately. Agassiz sat at the head of the table, and Longfellow at the foot. Lowell himself sat on the ichthyological professor's right hand, while Emerson occupied the seat on the left. *Au reste*, the guests were: Stillman, the author and artist; Dr. Holmes; Underwood, the author of "Bulls and Bears," now publishing in the *Atlantic Monthly*; Mr. Edmund Quincy, Professor Felton, Mr. Dwight, of the *Journal of Music*, with others equally agreeable or distinguished. Emerson read a strangely beautiful poem, suggested by the event celebrated; Dr. Holmes read another, and Mr. Lowell replied to these compliments in verse. Several charming birthday gifts were presented to the poet-professor by his friends, among others a picture by Stillman.

Mr. Hiram Fuller, well known as a journalist in the United States for his contributions to the *New York Picayune*, the *New York Mirror*, and the *New York Times*, and who is now in this country, gives an amusing, though somewhat inflated account of the literary amusements of the passengers on board the steamship *Asia*, on his way to this country. It appears that they resolved to establish among themselves a kind of newspaper called the *Asiatic Lottery*: "The articles were handed every day to Lady Bury; and published by being read aloud after dinner. And here I may add that, notwithstanding there were five regular meals daily, when the tables were loaded with the most sumptuous and varied fare, yet every table was a delightful pastime, as well as a rich repast, occupying at least three hours. The contributions to our improvised journal swelled to some two hundred letter-sheet pages; and many of them were of a high order of talent. It proved that not only was every man of our company a singer, an orator, and a wit, but a poet and journalist as well. Lady Bury contributed a story, entitled the 'Posthumous Papers of Dr. Bianco,' not surpassed by any similar production by Dickens. Train gave us volumes of statistics, and poetry by the yard; while a young man on board, by the name of Burns, a clerk in the New York House of Morton, Grinnell, and Co., threw off gems in rhyme worthy of his great namesake. Mr. Smith, of Staffordshire; Mr. Coghill, of New York; Mr. Kinnaird, of London; and Mr. Carter, of the well-known firm of A. S. Henry and Co., also contributed liberally to the columns of the *Lottery*. A clever artist, Mr. Burton, sketched the portraits of the contributors, and these, with various articles, were made into a large volume, which was put up at 21.—forty-two tickets at 10s. each. Mrs. Malcolm Graham, of New York, won the prize, but very kindly placed the original copy in the hands of Lord Bury, who will furnish each subscriber, who desires it, with a copy, which is to be privately printed. The money raised was also placed in the hands of Lord Bury, to hand over to a benevolent institution."

A sale of all the various revolutionary journals filed during the famous year 1848, in Paris, had been announced in all the papers some days back; the auction has been forbidden, though any private transfer of the property is not objected to.

In the course of researches in the library of the University of Turin, M. Benoit, examining judge to Tribunal of the Seine, discovered an unpublished translation into French verse of Dante's "Inferno," the author of which is unknown in Italy, and which appears to have itself remained unheard of in France to this day.

A retired actor of the Théâtre des Célestins, at Lyons, has just died in the Isle St. Barbe, on the Saône, aged eighty. He had been in his youth a printer's devil in Paris, and on the very day Marat was poignarded in his bath-room by Charlotte Corday, he was carrying copy and proofs of *L'Ami du Peuple*, of which this tiger was editor, and met on the staircase the determined imitator of Judith going up to slay Holofernes, who asked him if Citoyen Marat could be spoken to. He replied, yes; as the last proofs were going to the form.

A German correspondent transmits the following as the effusion of a would-be German poet, attempting to celebrate in English verse, the auspicious event which has lately rejoiced Berlin:—

God bless our Prince!

With loyalty, that touches all the best  
And noblest principles of Prussian breast  
And nation's heart, it beats for thee alone.  
May be, once King, thy luck to be the nation's own,  
And of thine Royal heart, shall for thine people bear,  
This people's fervent prayer, our Gracious Lord will meet;  
God bless our Prince!

The approaching centenary jubilee for celebrating the anniversary of Schiller's birth, is already being heralded in Germany by all kinds of publications, artistic and literary. The Cotta firm, of Stuttgart, is at last going to give the public the critical edition—so long expected—of Schiller's complete works; an edition on the plan of the Lessing of Messrs. Lachmann and Maltzahn. At the same time there are to appear a new biography of Schiller, by M. Emile Palleske, and a similar volume from M. I. Scherr, which will be illustrated by the first artists in Germany. Another artistic work, produced under the inspiration of the centenary anniversary of Schiller's birth, is the "Schiller Gallery," of which the first part has appeared during the last few years at Leipzig, and which will contain fifty plates, representing the principal characters in Schiller's dramas, with a portrait of Schiller and his wife. The characters represented in the first part are Heding (wife of William Tell), Gessler, Piccolomini, Lady Milford, and Luisa Miller. The work will be finished before the 10th of November, 1859. Schiller was born 10th of November, 1759.

A correspondent of *Notes and Queries* extracts from the *Kalische Zeitung* what is called "a correct transcript of the sentence of death pronounced against Jesus Christ": The following is a copy of the most memorable judicial sentence which has ever been pronounced in the annals of the world, namely, that of death against the Saviour, with the remarks which the journal *Le Droit* has collected, and the knowledge of which must be interesting in the highest degree to every Christian. Until now I am not aware that it has ever been made public in the German papers. The sentence is word for word as follows:

Sentences pronounced by Pontius Pilate, intendant of the province of Lower Galilee, that Jesus of Nazareth shall suffer death by the cross.

In the seventeenth year of the reign of the Emperor Tiberias, and on the 25th of the month of March, in the most holy city of Jerusalem, during the pontificate of Annas and Calaphas.

Pontius Pilate, intendant of the province of Lower Galilee, sitting in judgment in the presidential seat of the prætor, sentences Jesus of Nazareth to death on a cross between two robbers, as the numerous and notorious testimonies of the people prove:

1. Jesus is a misleader.
2. He has excited the people to sedition.
3. He is an enemy to the laws.
4. He calls himself the Son of God.
5. He calls himself falsely the King of Israel.

6. He went into the Temple, followed by a multitude carrying palms in their hands.

Orders the first centurion, Quirillus Cornelius, to bring him to the place of execution.

Forbids all persons, rich or poor, to prevent the execution of Jesus.

The witnesses who have signed the execution against Jesus are:

1. Daniel Robani, I'hariase.
2. John Zorobabel.
3. Raphael Robani.
4. Capet.

Jesus to be taken out of Jerusalem through the gate of Tournea.

This sentence is engraved on a plate of brass, in the Hebrew language, and on its sides are the following words, "A similar plate has been sent to each tribe." It was discovered in the year 1280, in the city of Aquill, in the kingdom of Naples, by a search made for the discovery of Roman antiquities, and remained there until it was found by the commissioners of art in the French army of Italy. Up to the time of the campaign in Southern Italy, it was preserved in the sacristy of the Carthusians, near Naples, where it was kept in a box of ebony. Since then the relic has been kept in the chapel of Caserta. The Carthusians obtained by their petitions that the plate might be kept by them, which was an acknowledgment of the sacrifices which they made for the French army. The French translation was made literally by members of the commission of arts. Dénon had a *fac simile* of the plate engraved, which was bought by Lord Howard, on the sale of his cabinet, for 2,800 francs. There seems to be no historical doubt as to the authenticity of this. The reasons of the sentence correspond exactly with those of the Gospel.

The editor of the *Buffalo Republic* inserted in his columns some trashy verses which he attributed to Mr. W. C. Bryant. These were copied extensively throughout the Union and admired. Whereupon the editor confesses the fraud, and says that he only did it "to establish the fact, which was plain to our mind, that no matter how atrocious an effusion was, the name of a poet who had established a reputation for poetry, would make it true poetry in the eyes of a large majority of poetry readers."

The *North China Herald* states, that a newspaper published at Shanghai in Chinese by the missionaries has attained a circulation of 700. The people buy it week by week, paying cash, and each purchaser reads it aloud. The Chinese, it appears, are much interested in all local news, particularly police reports.

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12 Dessert Spoons	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0	
12 Tea Spoons	1 18 0	1 14 0	1 10 0	1 18 0	
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	1 12 0	0 15 0	1 18 0	1 1 0	
2 Sauce Ladles	0 7 0	0 8 6	0 10 6	0 16 0	
1 Gravy Spoon	0 8 0	0 11 0	0 13 0	0 16 0	
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 7 6	
1 Mustard Spoon, girt, bl.	0 2 0	0 2 6	0 3 0	0 3 2	
1 Pair of Sugar Tonga	0 3 0	0 3 9	0 5 0	0 7 0	
1 Pair of Fish Carvers	1 4 0	1 7 6	1 12 0	1 18 0	
1 Butter Knife	0 3 6	0 5 9	0 7 0	0 8 0	
1 Soup Ladle	0 12 0	0 17 6	1 0 0	1 0 0	
1 Sugar Sifter	0 4 0	0 4 9	0 5 9	0 8 6	
Total	11 14 6	14 11 3	17 14 21	21 4 9	

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*Sunday Times*, Sept. 6th, 1857.

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